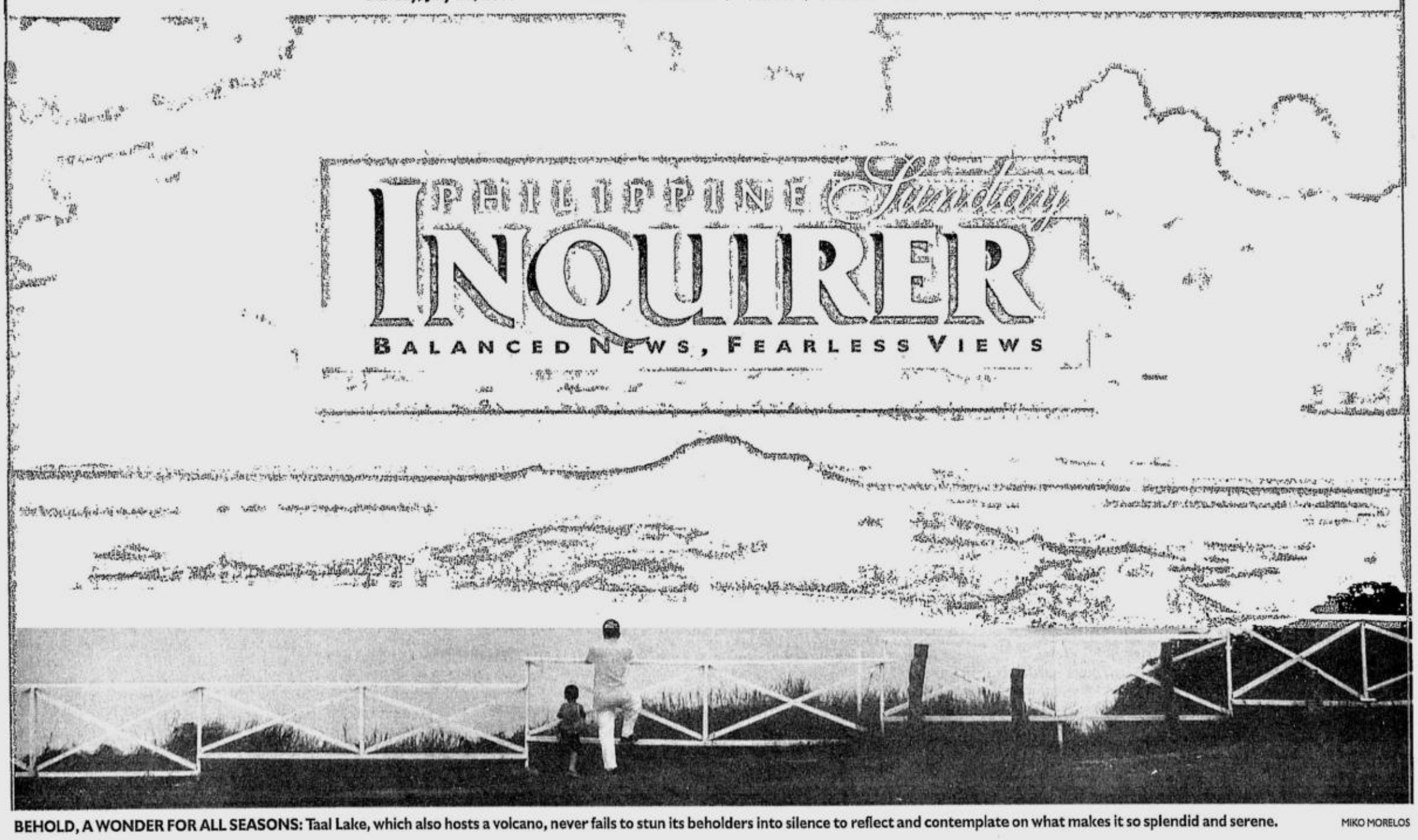
Sunday, July 29, 2007 ★★ 13 sections / Vol. 22 / No. 231 P20 website: www.inquirer.net

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



BEHOLD, A WONDER FOR ALL SEASONS: Taal Lake, which also hosts a volcano, never fails to stun its beholders into silence to reflect and contemplate on what makes it so splendid and serene. MIKO MORELOS

Neri is education czar

GMA gives chief economist 'special assignment' in ailing sector

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE "TEMPORARY" TRANSFER OF PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo's chief economist to the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd), which officially takes place next week, reflects her resolve to address the ills plaguing the education sector.

Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Romulo Neri virtually confirmed yesterday that the education sector was mired in a crisis that could drag down the economy and put at risk the President's vision of a modern Philippines in 20 years.

"We have too many unemployed college graduates," Neri said in a phone interview when asked about the gravity of the problem. He put the number at "about one million" nationwide.

He said Ms Arroyo's "special assignment" for him concerned the "mismatch" between the demands of the market, or jobs, and the available personnel resources.

"We want to make sure the college graduates are matched with the requirements of the industry," he said.

On July 10, Ms Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 632 designating a de facto education czar to "assess, plan and monitor the entire educational system."

The EO abolished the National Coordinating Council for Education (NCCE), replacing it with "a presidential assistant to exercise its functions."

But Neri, the head of the National Economic and Development Authority (Neda), said he was not the presidential assistant mentioned in the EO.

"I don't know, not me. I'm not familiar with the presidential assistant. All I know is I am the chairman of CHEd," he said.

Neri said he was offered the CHEd post during a meeting with Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita in Malacañang on Wednesday.

NERI/ A8

Young and restless 1st termers set to rock House

By Norman Bordadora

AFTER THE SPICE BOYS WHO MADE life difficult for ousted President Joseph Estrada during the 11th Congress and the so-called Bright Boys who were hand-picked by Estrada to act as a foil against the former, a group of very young first-time members of the House of Representatives is attempting to fashion a distinct identity for themselves in a chamber known for being a club of the old and the traditional.

Typically, the members of this neophyte group, the youngest of whom is only 25 years old, talk the language of reform and express confidence that change would start with them.

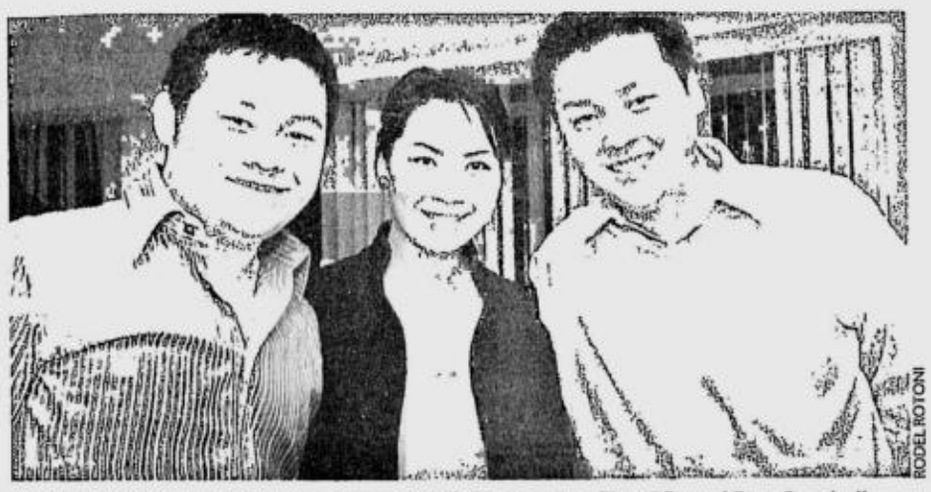
"I can categorically say that I am willing to sacrifice my pork barrel for a national agenda that I believe in and which might run counter to that of the administration," said 28-year-old Valenzuela Rep. Rexlon Gatchalian.

Samar Rep. Sharrie Ann Tan, at 25 the youngest member of the House, said she was quite willing to do that, too, but asked if it would be necessary at all.

"Standing up for the national interest doesn't mean sacrificing the interests of your constituency," said Tan.

Gatchalian, who with Tan and Buhay party-list Rep. Erwin Tieng met with INQUIRER editors and reporters over dinner late Thursday, said there were about 20 first-termers like themselves who come together regularly and go to "places peo-

YOUNG/ A6



RODEL ROTONI

GIMMICKS: Reps. William Irwin Tieng, 27, Sharee Ann Tan, 25, and Rex Gatchalian, 28, hang out together at their favorite resto but talk the language of reform.

Int'l sleuths hot on trail of missing $250M, investors assured

By Daxim L. Lucas

THE MEETING WAS SO SECRET, PARticipants were issued passwords before they were permitted entry.

A leading financial forensics company has been hired to follow the money trail left by the head of a foreign exchange trading firm who disappeared earlier this month with as much as $250 million in investors' money.

This was what officers of Performance Investments Products Corp. (PIPC) told a group of about 350 angry investors during the secret meeting last Thursday, according to an investor who attended the meeting but who asked not to be named as he was not authorized to speak to the media.

The company has been trying to pacify irate investors after PIPC's Singaporean president, Michael Liew, disappeared earlier this month, along with all their investments.

John Batchelor, executive director of Ferrier Hodgson, presented the firm's preliminary findings and its plan of action during the meeting, according to one participant at Thursday's meeting.

Last week, PIPC general manager Cristina Gonzalez Tuason hired Ferrier Hodgson in an attempt to recover the investors' missing funds. The firm has offices in major Asian cities, as well as in Australia and New Zealand, and claims to have been successful in tracking down and recovering misappropriated assets.

One of the first things that investigators of the Australian-based corporate forensics investigating firm, Ferrier

INT'L/ A6

Practical joke makes dentist poorer, then richer

OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON—AN oral surgeon who temporarily implanted fake boar tusks in his assistant's mouth as a practical joke and got sued for it has gotten the state's high court to back up his gag.

Dr. Robert Woo of Auburn,

PRACTICAL/ A8

OAKWOOD POSTSCRIPT

Rebel with a cause, now man with mission

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

THE VICTORY OF ANTONIO TRILlanes IV in the senatorial elections still gives veteran pollsters pause.

Early on, an embarrassed military leadership had to seriously consider whether his victory was a "vindication" of the 312 junior officers and men who railed against corruption in the military and in the government in an 18-hour standoff that came to be known as the Oakwood mutiny of July 2003.

The fact is that this former Navy lieutenant and acknowledged leader of the "Magdalo" rebel soldiers became, at 35, a senator of the realm against all odds, winning even while behind bars and despite a "troublemaker" reputation and a meager war chest.

Controversy continues to hound him, from the delay in his proclamation because of a snag in the issuance of a permit to leave his detention cell, to his pending omnibus petition at the Makati Regional Trial Court to be allowed to attend Senate sessions and grant interviews, among other things.

Does this man know what he has gotten himself into?

In a 2-hour phone interview with the INQUIRER, Trillanes is both enthusiastic and reticent. He is variously eager to answer the questions that had not been submitted beforehand and quick to ask

REBEL/ A6

Docu tells story of RP teachers, most in demand OFWs in US today

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Entertainment

ALTHOUGH SLEEP-DEPRIVED, FILipino-American filmmaker Ramona Diaz's mind swirled with all sorts of "compelling" images: African-American girls in Filipiniana costumes dancing the *pandango sa ilaw* and chanting "Penpen de Sarapen," an American school principal and janitor swaying to "Pinoy Ako," the theme of the ABS-CBN reality show "Pinoy Big Brother," and the film's American cinematographer insisting on changing his citizenship to Filipino.

Diaz, whose 2004 documentary

DOCU/ A8

The B(r)est of all worlds: A quick look at why breastfeeding is best for mother, father, child and Planet Earth
SUNDAY MAGAZINE

US lawmakers to probe Nasa for allowing astronauts to fly missions while drunk
WORLD / A22

Carlo J. Caparas sounds off the buzz that 'Komiks' is alive and well as popular entertainment/art form
ENTERTAINMENT / F1

JOB Market
Get your life back with career of choice

A2

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007

EZ2 SIX DIGIT

14 13 | 3 7 3 1 0 5

Mid-Day SUERTRES Evening

8 3 7 | 1 7 1

(All in exact order)

6/42 LUZON/VIS-MIN

2 8 10 17 34 42

P4,486,854.60

Second FRONTPAGE

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/nation

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

COMPILED BY: SCHATZI QUODALA, PDI RESEARCH/07/28/07 SOURCE: PAGASA

BILATERAL PACTS SIGNED TODAY

RP, North Korea enter new era

By Alcuin Papa

THE PHILIPPINES AND NORTH KOREA ARE SET TO sign bilateral agreements seen to herald a new era in relations between the two countries during the meeting of foreign ministers of the Association of South East Asian Nations (Asean) which opens in Manila today.

The agreements will focus on "enhanced diplomatic ties," diplomatic sources said.

"This is the closest the countries have come in terms of diplomatic ties," the sources added.

Expanding its relationship with the Philippines is part of the communist country's attempt to rehabilitate its image before the international community, the sources said.

North Korea, which became a member of the United Nations in 2001, has presented a security problem for the international community because of its nuclear program. In October 2006, it announced that it had detonated a nuclear bomb.

In response, the United States froze North Korean bank assets and the so-called "Six-Party Talks" aimed at finding a peaceful resolution to the security issues connected with the North Korean nuclear program, were scuttled.

Dialogue partners

Five of the six-party members—China, South Korea, the United States, Russia and Japan—are full dialogue partners of Asean. North Korea is the sixth member.

The agreements come five months after President Macapagal-Arroyo, at the end of the last Asean Leaders Summit in Cebu, urged Pyongyang to "actively address the security and humanitarian concerns of the international community, including food shortages and critical insufficiencies of medical and other humanitarian services in North Korea, and the abduction issue."

The Philippines established diplomatic ties with North Korea in 2000. At the time, the Philippines was the only Asian nation without any formal ties with Pyongyang.

Another benefit to be seen in the agreements is in the area of security, another diplomat said.

Stop arms transfer

"Closer ties between the two countries could prevent any transfer of firearms from North Korea to armed groups in the country like Muslim and communist rebels," the source said.

North Korea has been a lucrative source of arms for armed groups in the Philippines, whether insurgents or criminal groups, the source said.

The North Korean delegation, led by Foreign Affairs Minister Pak Ui Chun, was scheduled to arrive yesterday. Pak will hold a one-on-one meeting with Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo today, to be followed by expanded bilateral meetings.

The two sides are expected to sign the diplomatic agreements at around 11 a.m. today.

Pak will call on President Arroyo in the afternoon.

The Asean foreign ministers are holding talks in Manila ahead of next week's annual meeting of the region's main security body, the Asean Regional Forum (ARF), which groups Asean and its key partners, including the European Union, the United States, China, India and Australia.

Diplomats said the 10-member Asean will look at toughening security rules for atomic energy when they meet next week to review a treaty on keeping nuclear weapons out of the region with the cooperation of the world's nuclear powers.

While no violation of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone treaty has been detected by Asean, the bloc has failed to convince key nuclear powers—the US, China, UK, Russia and France—to endorse it.

Respect nuke-free zone

Under a five-year plan outlining steps to better ensure treaty compliance, to be adopted next week, Asean plans to ask those countries to at least promise to respect it.

With several countries looking at nuclear power to meet their energy needs, Asean also wants to ensure atomic material and technology do not get used for non-peaceful ends, said Romulo who will chair the one-day ARF meeting on Aug. 2.

Under the wide-ranging 1997 treaty, Asean members may not develop or test nuclear weapons and pledged not to allow ships carrying those weapons from passing their waters.

Now as nations look at building more civilian nuclear power plants, Asean wants to tighten the rules to address proliferation concerns, said Romulo.

Asean members Indonesia and Vietnam have both announced plans to build nuclear power plants in the next few years.

The possibility of nuclear weapons getting into the hands of terrorists has also been a concern. *With a report from Cynthia Balana, AFP and AP*

Rights panel still thorny issue in Asean charter

By Cynthia D. Balana

SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS ARE UNABLE to agree on setting up a human rights commission and on sanctions against members who flout the regional group's rules, Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said yesterday.

According to reports, some countries, including Burma (Myanmar), had opposed moves within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to set up a rights commission, decide issues by vote rather than by consensus, and provide for sanctions.

Romulo, speaking after senior officials had completed the first draft of an Asean charter, said 90 percent of the document had been agreed upon but these three issues remained unresolved.

He also described the deliberations, which extended well into the wee hours of the morning the past two days, as "exhaustive."

Complete draft today

He said the High Level Task Force (HLTF) assigned to draft the charter was hoping to finish the draft today in time for the informal dinner for the 40th Asean Ministerial Meeting (AMM) delegates tomorrow at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

"They told me at least 90 percent has been agreed upon. Among the several items that the Philippines hopes to be included are the issue on human rights and voting other than by consensus," Romulo said.

He noted that the Philippine position on the inclusion of a human rights clause in the charter was firm and definite.

"We have a position and we hope that position is upheld. We believe it is a good position and should be supported," Romulo said.

He pointed out that even the United Nations charter had a universal declaration of human rights.

"It's a universal desire that there must be a human rights commission. I believe the Asean can do no less," Romulo said.

He said it was not up to him to make a comment or prejudge the outcome of the thorny issue, adding that it was up to the HLTF.

"We are not focusing on any country. It is up to them to come up with the desired result. I am optimistic, however, that they will come to an agreement," Romulo said.

He also confirmed that five foreign ministers would not be able to attend the ARF because of certain developments in their countries but they would be represented by their deputies. These are the ministers of the United States, Canada, Pakistan, Vietnam and Papua New Guinea.

Foreign ministers from the 10-member Asean will meet in Manila from tomorrow night onward to thresh out a charter and present it for adoption at a leaders' summit in November.

Derided by West

For decades, Asean has been derided by the West because of its reluctance to get involved in the internal affairs of member countries and its commitment to decide issues only by consensus.

The United States and the European Union have particularly blamed the group for not bringing enough pressure on Burma's junta to end rights abuses and a crackdown on the opposition.

Older members of the group, including founding members Malaysia and the Philippines, have expressed concern that the image of Asean as a whole has taken a beating because of Burma. *With Reuters, AP reports*

Islamists' victims in RP number 1,700, says watchdog

NEW YORK—ISLAMIST GROUPS INcluding the Abu Sayyaf have killed or wounded more than 1,700 people in the Philippines since 2000, Human Rights Watch said in a report to be released today.

The US-based rights watchdog said that the death toll in the Philippines surpassed the number of casualties for the same period in neighboring Indonesia, including in the 2002 Bali bombings.

"Extremist armed groups have spread terror among civilians in the Philippines," said John Sifton, senior researcher on terrorism and counterterrorism at Human Rights Watch.

"They have bombed buses carrying workers, food markets where people were shopping, airports where relatives were waiting for loved ones, and ferry boats carrying families," he said.

The rights group's 28-page report entitled, "Lives Destroyed: Attacks on Civilians in the Philippines," details bombings, kidnappings, executions and shootings mostly in Basilan, Jolo and elsewhere in Mindanao.

The rights group criticized the Philippine government for not prosecuting those responsible for the attacks, saying that although numerous suspects had been arrested, very few had been successfully brought to trial.

It also criticized a new counterterrorism law that it said contained "dangerous overbroad provisions that violate human rights standards and broaden the scope of government power to hold terrorism suspects indefinitely."

"The Philippines doesn't need a new abusive counterterrorism law," said Sifton. "The government isn't using the laws it already has, so why does it need new provisions that violate human rights?"

President Macapagal-Arroyo recently signed the antiterror Human Security Act of 2007 into law. *AFP*

Fuel prices up by 50¢/liter

By Abigail L. Ho

LOCAL OIL COMPANIES YESTERDAY RAISED the pump prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene by 50 centavos a liter, citing escalating prices of oil in the world market.

Oil refiner Petron Corp. increased prices at 12:01 a.m. yesterday, followed by Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Chevron Philippines Inc. at 6 a.m.

Eastern Petroleum Corp. also made similar price adjustments yesterday.

Total (Philippines) Corp. and Unioil Petroleum Philippines Inc. raised prices of the same products at 12:01 a.m. today. Flying V will follow suit at 12:01 a.m. tomorrow.

According to data from the Department of Energy, the regional benchmark Dubai crude surged to an average of $69.54 a barrel in the first 26 days of July, from the June average of $65.79 a barrel.

The price of unleaded gasoline based on the Mean of Platts Singapore (MOPS) benchmark for refined petroleum products climbed to an average of $85.89 a barrel in the July 1-26 period, from the June average of $84.79 a barrel.

MOPS-based diesel likewise jumped to an average price of $88.23 a barrel as of July 26, from the June average of $84.20 a barrel.

Eastern Petroleum chair and chief executive Fernando Martinez said local oil supply, and probably price, could also be affected by the closure of the one-million-barrel capacity Oil Link storage facility in Bataan.

"An estimated 300,000 barrels of tax-paid diesel and jet fuel had been padlocked in the said storage facility, mostly owned by major independent petroleum corporations, including Total, Unioil, Flying V and Eastern Petroleum and Cebu Pacific Air," he said.

The Bureau of Customs on Thursday stopped Oil Link's operation due to its alleged non-payment of P353 million in taxes.

According to reports, Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales will auction off all the contents of the storage if Oil Link fails to settle its tax obligations within 30 days.

The latest fuel price hike was the tenth for gasoline for a total of P5.50 a liter and the seventh for both diesel and kerosene for a total of P3.50 a liter.

Since the start of the year, pump prices of gasoline, diesel and kerosene have also been reduced by a total of P1.80 a liter.

It's our 60th birthday.

Reserve your seat early to join the celebrations.

60 years

We're celebrating our 60th birthday by giving you even more reason to book your Singapore Airlines flight early. Simply reserve your seat between 15th and 31st July for departure October through December and receive 50% Krisflyer bonus miles! Book through **singaporeair.com** and receive 100% bonus miles! Plus, you'll be eligible to join the lucky draw for a chance to win an additional 60,000 KrisFlyer miles! Of course, there's also the peace of mind that comes with knowing you're confirmed to travel on your preferred dates and with the airline whose inflight service even other airlines talk about.

DTI-NCR Permit No. 3072, Series of 2007

100% bonus miles for tickets purchased via singaporeair.com; or, 50% bonus miles for tickets purchased through SIA Reservations or Ticket Office, or through a travel agent. Valid for bookings made between 15 and 31 July 2007, for travel out-MNL between 15 October and 31 December 2007. Eligible for all mileage accruable tickets to all destinations, except to Singapore. Tickets must be roundtrip, with the return journey completed within the ticket validity or by 30 June 2008, whichever is shorter. Only tickets purchased via singaporeair.com are eligible for the 60,000 miles grand raffle draw. Each eligible ticket is equivalent to one (1) raffle entry for the lucky draw. Promotion is eligible for Philippine-based KrisFlyer members only. Other terms and conditions apply.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A great way to fly
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

Cops bag P3.6M worth of drugs

THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE RECOVered some P3.6 million worth of illegal drugs and arrested 414 drug violators in antidrug operations conducted around the country in the third week of July.

PNP Directorate for Operations chief Director Wilfredo Garcia said 181 of those arrested were involved in dealing drugs, mostly shabu or methamphetamine hydrochloride.

Garcia said that from July 14 to 20, a total of 25.3 grams of shabu, 5,664 grams of marijuana, 579 marijuana seedlings and 1556 full-grown marijuana plants were confiscated.

A total of 119 cases have been filed around the country in relation to the confiscated drugs.

Garcia said their intensified campaign against wanted persons and loose firearms resulted in the arrest of 99 persons.

The PNP confiscated 25 firearms, 19 of them high-powered, in separate police operations.

In the campaign against illegal gambling, the PNP arrested 58 persons in 67 antigambling operations.

Alcuin Papa

Experience High Class Conference in Baguio

Hotel Elizabeth
Fersal • Baguio

LIVE-IN PACKAGE from Php 1,500.00 net/pax/day
LIVE-OUT PACKAGE Php 600.00 net/pax/day

FREE WiFi • BUSINESS CTR • GYM • SPA

No.1 J. Felipe St. cor. Gibraltar Rd., Baguio City
(near Good Shepherd, St. Joseph Church, & Mines View Park)
Baguio: (074) 619-0367 • Email: reservations@hotelelizabeth.com.ph
www.hotelelizabeth.com.ph

Fersal Place Hotel
CONFERENCE PACKAGES
from Php 495.00 net/pax/day (live-out)
1,388.00 net/pax/day (live-in)
131 Malakas St., Diliman, Quezon City • Tel. No. (632) 426-7308 • reservations@fersalplace.com.ph

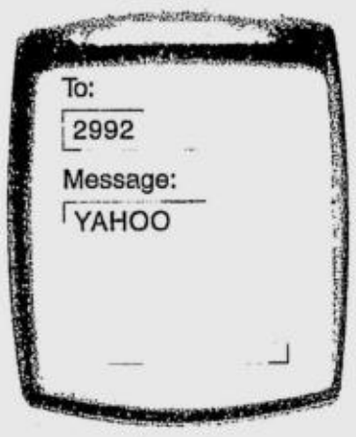
Newly Renovated Rooms
reservations@fersalinn.com.ph
FERSAL INN
from Php 650.00 to 950.00 net/pax
Deluxe Room • Based on Twin Sharing
FREE BREAKFAST !!!
• P. Tuazon St., Cubao, Quezon City ..... Tel.: (+632) 912-8000
• Annapolis St., Cubao, Quezon City ..... Tel.: (+632) 912-5852
• Neptune St., Makati City ..... Tel.: (+632) 897-9123
• Kalayaan Avenue, Quezon City ..... Tel.: (+632) 924-2689
• Andalucia St., Sta. Cruz, Manila ..... Tel.: (+632) 742-7292

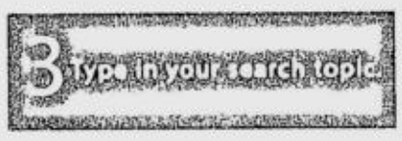
Inn Café "Dining with pleasure at affordable prices"

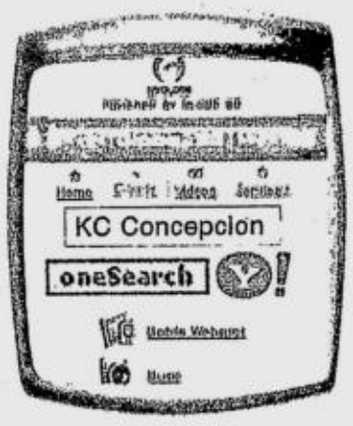
Manila Reservations Office: (632) 912-2691 • Trunk Line: (632) 911-2161 local 148 • Fax: (632) 912-2693

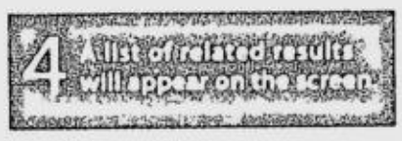
"I want instant answers in one click!"

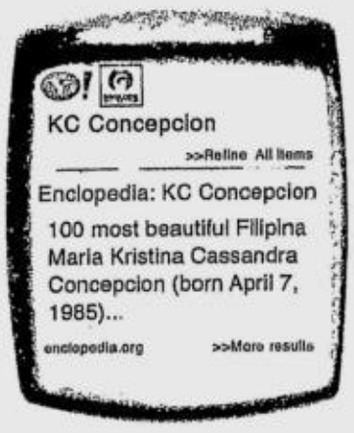
It's so easy to get info with Yahoo! oneSearch











MYGLOBE

Posible with another first from Globe!

Y! ONESEARCH™

Get easy instant access to all the information you need right on myGlobe!

Text **YAHOO** to **2992** for FREE!

Click on the WAP link to begin your Yahoo! oneSearch experience.

Try searching the world for **FREE** when the Globe and Yahoo! kiosk roll to a mall near you!

July 21 - 22	Glorietta, SM North EDSA
July 28 - 29	SM Bacoor, Trinoma, Ayala Center Cebu
Aug. 4 - 5	SM Baguio, Gateway
Aug. 11 - 12	SM Manila, Greenbelt
Aug. 18 - 19	SM Pampanga, Eastwood
Aug. 25 - 26	SM MOA, Robinsons Bacolod

50% OFF BROWSING
Starting July 22

Enjoy web and WAP browsing on your Globe phone at 50% off the regular rate of P0.15/kb.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3398, Series of 2007.
Promo period: July 22 to September 19, 2007
See flyers for details.

YAHOO! friend, ang lakas mo sa Globe™

Ong gives up SC bid insisting he's Filipino

By Michael Lim Ubac

HIS APPOINTMENT SNAGGED BY A CITIZENSHIP question, Sandiganbayan Justice Gregory Ong has chosen to give up a once-in-a-lifetime chance to sit on the highest court in the land—the ultimate career ambition for any lawyer.

Malacañang yesterday said Ong "personally" called up Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita to inform the Office of the President that "he was voluntarily relinquishing the appointment earlier issued to him in order to give the President a free hand to appoint another to the Supreme Court."

The Supreme Court has stopped Ong from accepting the appointment until the issue of his birth and citizenship is resolved in a judicial proceeding.

"He did not want his personal predicament to stand in the way of the Supreme Court's functioning as a 15-man tribunal as envisioned in the Constitution," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye of Ong.

He said Ong had conveyed his "sincerest gratitude" to President Macapagal-Arroyo for appointing him to the Supreme Court.

Interviewed by reporters, Ong said: "I am truly saddened by the decision of the high court, but I respect it. I am a Filipino. I lived and will live my life as a Filipino, and I raised my children as law-abiding Filipinos."

The President appointed Ong to the high court in May to fill the vacancy left by Associate Justice Romeo Callejo Sr. who retired on April 28.

The appointment was held up by strong opposition from various quarters, including the Supreme Court itself, over the question of Ong's citizenship.

The President had 90 days, or until yesterday, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Callejo.

Judicial watchdog groups Kilosbayan, headed by former Senate President Jovito Salonga, and Bantay Katarungan petitioned the high court to stop the President's appointment of Ong on the ground that he was not a natural-born Filipino.

The Constitution requires that members of the Supreme Court and other collegial courts be natural-born Filipinos.

Ong claimed he was a natural-born citizen because he was born of a Filipino mother but that a mistake had been made in the citizenship entry on his birth certificate because his mother had erroneously believed that she was Chinese.

The high court in early July voted to grant the Kilosbayan and Bantay Katarungan petition, stopping Ong from accepting the appointment until he was able to show that he was a natural-born Filipino citizen.

The high court also directed Ong to go to the courts to correct the records of his birth and citizenship. This, it said, had to be done through judicial proceedings and not by administrative rulings.

The justice department had reaffirmed Ong's status as a natural-born Filipino, citing then Justice Secretary Teofisto Guingona's legal opinion issued in 1997 stating that Ong was a natural-born Filipino citizen.

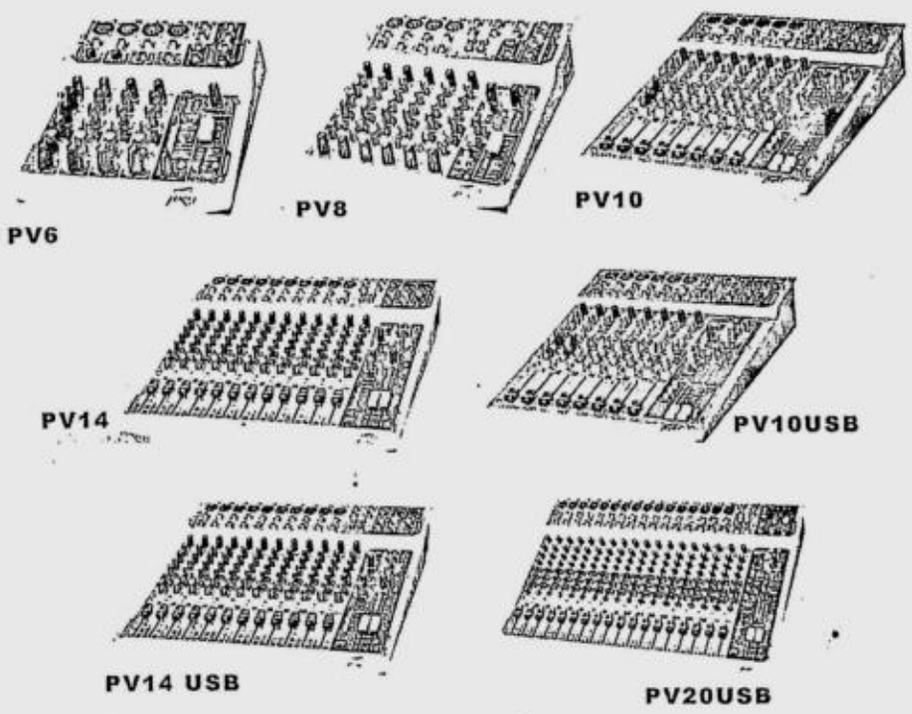
The high court said Ong had the burden of proving in court the citizenship of his ancestors and his own citizenship, under the 1935, 1972 and 1987 Constitutions.

Until this was done, Ong's acceptance of an appointment to the high court would be a violation of the Constitution, the justices said.

PEAVEY® LISTEN TO THIS™

PV® Series Mixers

The PV Series has long been the benchmark of performance and value in audio, and the new PV mixers reinforce this legacy. With the same reference-quality microphone preamps used in Peavey RQ™ Series mixers and an astonishingly low THD (total harmonic distortion) of 0.0007%, these new mixers are equally useful in project studios or live/program music mixing situations.



Exclusively distributed by Audiophile
WWW.AUDIOPHILECOMPONENTS.COM
visit: www.peavey.com

Main Office: ACI Bldg. 1142 Pres. Quirino Ave. Ext. Paco Manila 1007 Tel: 5880917; 5880920 to 23 Fax: 5641720 Branches: - 3rd Lv. Alimall Araneta Center Cubao Q.C. Tel: 9111345, 9134242 Fax: 9111790 - 2nd Lv. Robinson's Place Pioneer, Pioneer St. cor Edsa Mandaluyong City. Tel: 7462506/7462223 - G/F & 2nd Flr. Makati Cinema Square, Pasong Tamo St. Makati City. Tel: 8444552, 8111906 Fax: 8110908 - 3rd Lv. Festival Supermall, Corporate City, Alabang-Muntinlupa City. Tel: 8072570, 8078798 - G/F City Center Bldg. 338 Ortigas Ave. Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila Tel: 7253982, 7233228 Satellite Branches: Audio Studio Lv 5 Bldg B SM Megamall Doña Julia Vargas St. cor Edsa, Mandaluyong City. Tel: 6347324, 6320590 - Sound & Music People 1328 Sunshine Blvd. Plaza, Quezon Ave. Sct. Santiago cor Panay. Q.C. Tel: 3764647, 3764650 Service Center & Clearance Showroom: #2 Diego Silang St. San Roque, Marikina City Tel: 6453175, 6454320, 6454328 Email: sales@audiophilecomponents.com

OUR LADY OF FATIMA UNIVERSITY

NOW OFFERS

NCLEX/CGFNS
EVENING REVIEW CLASSES
For all BSN GRADUATES & REGISTERED NURSES

ENROLLMENT GOING ON
REVIEW CLASSES START ON AUGUST 6, 2007

Admission Office: FATIMA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
120 MacArthur Highway, Valenzuela City
Tel. No. 291-66-44 or 293-2713 loc. 110
San Lorenzo Hall Bldg. Tel. No. 443-2993

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, World Health Organization, UNICEF
and
National League of Philippine Government Nurses, Inc.

celebrate the

World Breastfeeding Week
August 1-7, 2007

"SA UNANG ORAS NG BUHAY
HANGGANG ANIM NA BUWAN
GATAS NG INA LAMANG ANG IBIGAY"

Activities:

August 1 - Mural Paintings on the Walls of Dr. Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center
- Ceremonial Posting of Posters at MRT and LRT Stations

August 3 - Breastfeeding Week Symposium, Century Park Hotel
- Revised A.O. on MBFHI
- "Usapang Breastfeeding"

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health
World Health Organization Western Pacific Region
unicef

Opposition should get blue ribbon, says Kiko

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER FRANCIS "Kiko" Pangilinan is in favor of giving the chairmanship of the influential blue ribbon committee to a senator "more identified with the opposition."

He said placing the Senate blue ribbon committee, which investigates public accountability, in the hands of the opposition is consistent with the results of the recent senatorial elections.

Seven of the 12 winning senators ran under the Genuine Opposition ticket.

Only three candidates of the administration's Team Unity slate won seats, with two independent candidates, including Pangilinan, completing the newest batch of senators.

GO guest candidate

"I think the committee chairmanship should go to a senator more identified with the opposition than the administration," Pangilinan, who nevertheless was a guest candidate of the GO, said yesterday.

He said the choice of blue ribbon committee chair "should be consistent with the sentiments of the electorate as shown in results of the last elections."

"But," he added, "the post should not be used as a platform for partisan politics."

The blue ribbon committee has become the subject of a tug-of-war between administration and opposition senators who both supported the Senate presidency bid of Manuel Villar to become part of the majority bloc.

Escudero also interested

But barely had Villar warmed his seat when both his administration and opposition allies threatened to withdraw their support if he gave the blue ribbon committee to the other camp.

Sen. Francis Escudero, one of three opposition senators who backed Villar, said earlier last week that he was also interested in heading the blue ribbon committee.

But he changed his mind. On Friday, he said he saw two opposition members possibly chairing the committee—Alan Peter Cayetano, who is with the majority bloc, and Panfilo Lacson, who is with the minority.

Joker preferred

Administration Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago had said the administration bloc preferred that Sen. Joker Arroyo retained the chairmanship of the committee.

"I think it would be better to say the post should go to a senator who is not closely identified with the administration," Pangilinan said yesterday.

As the body that investigates public accountability, the Senate blue ribbon committee wields heavy clout over public officials.

Observe ceasefire

Pangilinan also called on both the administration and opposition camps to observe a "ceasefire" until the campaign period starts for the next presidential election in 2010.

"Let's focus on legislation and put a ceasefire on political sniping. I appeal to both the majority and minority in the Senate to focus on the needed legislation today and put off hitting each other to a later more appropriate time," he said.

He said the fight over the blue ribbon committee was related to the early maneuvering by some senators with an eye on the 2010 presidential election.

Pangilinan has also called for a workshop for the senators to hammer out a common legislative agenda.

Erap's party inducts new execs, eyes new life

A REVITALIZED PWERSA NG MASANG Pilipino, the political party of former President Joseph Estrada, yesterday inducted its new set of officers at the ousted leader's detention estate in Tanay, Rizal, Navotas City Mayor Toby Tiangco told INQUIRER.

Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim was sworn in by Estrada as new PMP president replacing Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, Tiangco said.

Estrada, who founded the party in 1997 when he won the presidency, remained the party chair, Tiangco said.

The Navotas mayor was sworn in as vice president for the National Capital Region. He said the new officers were instructed to give new life to the party.

"We want to revitalize the party for it to be more effective," Tiangco said.

He said Estrada, in his short speech during the induction, reminded them "not to forget the masses, the reason the party was formed."

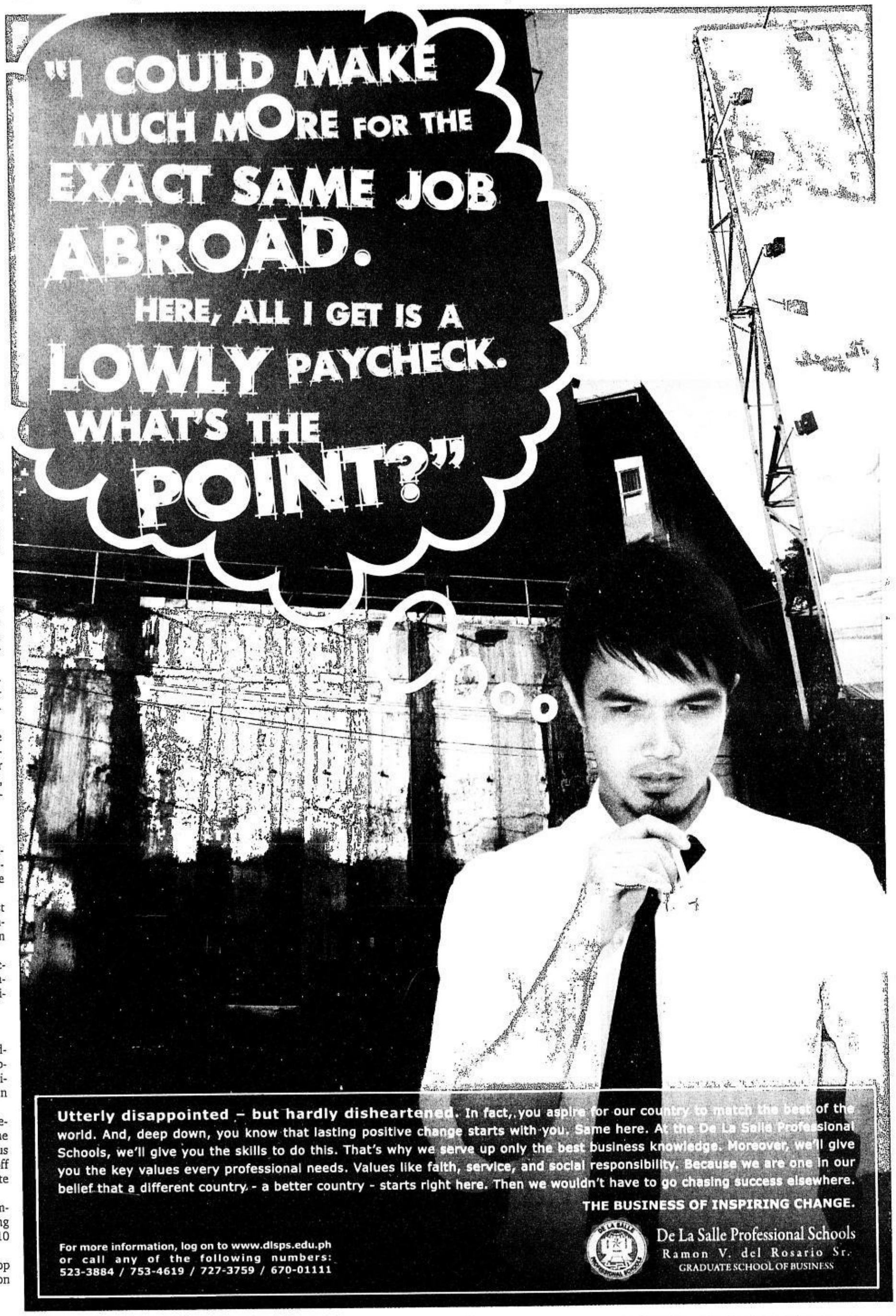
Tiangco said the other new officers were Sen. Jinggoy Estrada, executive vice president; San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito, vice president for Luzon; San Juan Rep. Ronaldo Zamora, vice president for national policy for development; Rep. Teodulo Coquilla, VP for Visayas; Rep. Digs Dilangalen, VP for Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, and Rep. Rufus Rodriguez, VP for Mindanao.

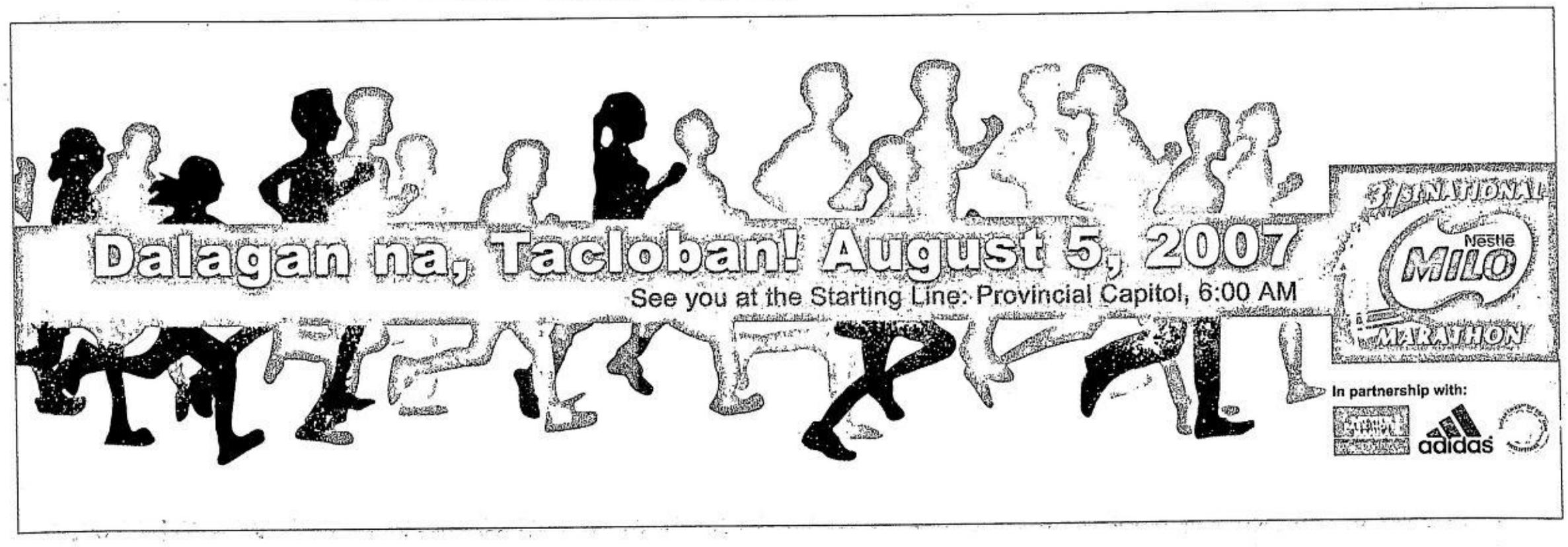
After the rites, Ejercito told the INQUIRER a supposed taped conversation between his father and President Macapagal-Arroyo's former chief of staff, Mike Defensor, was nothing but administration propaganda.

Defensor has denied in radio interviews talking to Estrada about a striking a deal during the 2004 presidential campaign.

"It's a ploy meant to alienate the masses from my father in the event that he would be acquitted," Ejercito said.

Nancy C. Carvajal





Rebel with a cause, now man with mission

From page A1

that certain remarks be stricken off the record.

He is uncomfortable wearing his beliefs on his sleeve, but is clear on one thing: He will be a builder, not a destroyer.

Trillanes says those who gush over his come-from-behind victory are mistaken in giving him the credit for it. But he says no single person could take the credit either, because the campaign that he has described as a "mission" was all about teamwork and volunteerism.

Still, he was "really, really humbled by the show of support."

If he can pin down one factor for his victory, what will it be?

A slight pause, and then: "I just came in at the right time.

"People were longing for change. I came in as somebody who, in the minds of the people, was untainted by politics. That's what they saw.

"Of course they wouldn't have known I was running if it weren't for the media."

Detained at the Marine brig in Fort Bonifacio for the last four years and his military career over (he quit the service when he filed his certificate of candidacy), Trillanes thinks that if he did not win, his life would have become "normal."

"I could have won my life back," says the father of two (three, actually; the youngest died in infancy). "My life now is for the country. I'm sharing my life with the people. But if I had lost, that chapter of my life would have been over and I would have had closure. Now the chapter of public service is unfinished."

He almost sounds envious of the other Magdalo officers, most of whom have entered into a plea bargain in their general court-martial.

He views the plea bargain, not as a capitulation, but as a part of the legal process that the other officers swore they would undergo for their actions.

"For them, it's finished. There's already a legal conclusion in the plea bargain. They will be free by January," he says.

FAMILY TIES: Trillanes has his hands full hugging his children Francis and Estelle at his oathtaking in his hometown of Caloocan City on June 29.

Loose cannon

Trillanes is aware that he is portrayed as a loose cannon, a rebel still obsessed with taking the government down. But he says this is "far from it."

"I would like to believe I'm a builder of this nation," declares the holder of a degree in naval systems engineering (cum laude) from the Philippine Military Academy.

"I want to be judged through my performance as a senator passing meaningful legislation and as a fiscalizer. These are the reasons people voted for me, not to destroy the government, as portrayed by propagandists."

This is "the bottom line," according to Trillanes: "I want to serve this country. I want your permission to do that."

He denies being the "one-dimensional" character that some people see.

He believes that his vow to revive the impeachment effort against President Macapagal-Arroyo is not incongruous to the "mission" he has set for himself.

"If I'm going to be a builder, I have to stop other people from destroying this country further. We can't build if somebody is still destroying. That's part of fiscalizing," he says.

Trillanes believes that the President is "behind" the killings and disappearances of leftist activists.

But he admits that the witnesses to the killings will likely come out when Ms Arroyo's term ends in 2010. (By then he will still be senator, and will continue to be so until 2013.)

Impeachment

"If I want to serve my country and if I know she's doing it, how do I reconcile that? I simply can't let it pass," he says.

Trillanes feels that his words about impeaching the President have been misconstrued.

"I never said I will initiate [the complaint]. Even a high school graduate knows that it is the House [of Representatives] that initiates it," he says, adding:

"But no one's going to stop me from convincing congressmen to support the impeachment.

"If the people will be lukewarm to it, I'll leave it be. That means they give a mandate to [Ms Arroyo]. But I'll give it a try. I'll convince people. We have to provoke change in that direction."

And if he succeeds, will he not be asked to inhibit himself from sitting as a judge in the impeachment trial?

Trillanes has a ready answer, reminding the INQUIRER how then Sen. Teofisto Guingona Jr. started the ouster movement against then President Joseph Estrada with his "I accuse" speech.

Guingona did not inhibit himself and was never asked to do so, Trillanes points out.

After all, he says, an impeachment trial is not a criminal trial where a judge cannot be perceived as biased.

"We have to be partial for the good of the country. Nobody can pretend they are impartial," he says.

Rude awakening

He talks lengthily of the power play in the Senate for top positions and juicy committee chairmanships.

He calls it "a rude awakening" to politics, but requests that his comments be kept off the record.

"I don't want to be self-righteous. But we have to focus on what we're here for, on why we were voted," says Trillanes, who, because he was not allowed to attend the opening session on July 23, was not able to vote on the Senate presidency.

But out of sight does not mean out of mind.

For their first official act, the senators debated a resolution favoring allowing Trillanes to attend Senate sessions and perform his duties as a senator.

The resolution crossed party lines and was passed by a 17-4 vote.

Because the court has not granted Trillanes' petition for media access, the INQUIRER sought his views on the resolution through his lawyer and chief of staff, Reynaldo Robles.

Grateful but ...

According to Robles, the senator was grateful for his colleagues' gesture but was careful to stress that he was not after a free pass out of detention: "I am thankful but I don't want to resort to arm-twisting the court. I want this legal victory."

"I want to be a working legislator," Trillanes tells the INQUIRER.

As for the idea of his grilling the military brass and other executives at confirmation hearings and Senate budget hearings, "that's another wrong impression of me," he says.

What the man prefers is to sit in the Senate committee on electoral reforms. "I saw first hand what election cheating is about," he says by way of explanation.

No isolationist

Actually, Trillanes also asks himself if he is ready for his new role: "Am I really cut out for this? Because there are those raring to cut me to pieces."

He says he knows he will have to work with all the 22 other senators—including those who grilled him at a Senate hearing months after the Oakwood mutiny—if he wants to get his bills passed.

"I am not an isolationist. People tend to underestimate my thinking, my leadership skills," Trillanes says wryly.

He says his critics may not have realized how, as a leader of the Magdalo officers and men, he held the group together despite extreme pressure from the military leadership in the past four years.

"If I did not have leadership skills, our group would have been in disarray," he says.

Trillanes is also bracing for criticism in view of his little knowledge of parliamentary procedures.

"If there will be foul-ups once in a while, it's OK. But on issues, I should be firm," he says. "If I get a bill passed into law, I'll be happy."

With a full legislative staff and advisers whom he personally chose, Trillanes filed on July 2 10 bills seeking, among others, to increase soldiers' allowances and combat pay, promote cheaper medicines, improve veterans' benefits, and repeal the E-VAT.

He speaks enthusiastically about a bill he and his staff are completing research on—one that will repeal the automatic debt service provision in the budget.

Learning lessons

Does Trillanes regret anything that has happened to him since the mutiny?

There is no hesitation in his reply: "Regretting is a negative response to an unfavorable result. But the positive response is to learn from this unfortunate event and make this lesson a guide to the future. It can help you strengthen your character."

He goes on lengthily about his and his comrades' detention, isolation and personal tragedies, his election campaign, and his victory, and pronounces these as mere part of a divine plan.

Much later he expresses discomfort, feeling he has revealed something too personal, and asks that his comments be taken off the record again.

"I don't want to sound preachy," he says. "That's not how I am."

Trillanes says he takes comfort in the thought that he will not be given a trial that he cannot handle.

"It just gives me confidence that whatever happens, it's supposed to happen," he says.

"If I'm destined to be cut to pieces, so be it. But if I'm not destined for that, they can't do anything about it.

"I have reached this point. Will I still doubt the strength of my conviction?"

Int'l sleuths hot on trail of missing $250M, investors assured

From page A1

TUASON

Hodgson, found was that Liew had ordered members of his staff to shred company documents long before the company's collapse.

"For the past six weeks before Michael Liew's disappearance, he had asked staff to shred documents," read the notes that the investor made of the meeting, which were obtained by the INQUIRER.

Missing since July 12

The investor present at the meeting said he was disappointed by the inaction of the PIPC officers upon learning of Liew's suspicious activities, as well as the delay in informing clients about the disappearance of the company president.

"They knew something was up. Yet they only informed me [on] July 18. The man has been missing since July 12. They sat on the information," he said.

During the briefing last Thursday at the Valle Verde 6 clubhouse in Pasig City, Batchelor reported that PIPC British Virgin Islands "was probably unlicensed to offer investment contracts to clients"—a point stressed earlier by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Stopped funds July 7

Batchelor also told the investors present that PIPC had been operating with insufficient funds "in the past few weeks," adding that Liew asked the office to stop remitting [funds] to investors' accounts on July 7.

According to the forensic investigator, PIPC investors in the British Virgin Islands, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and India have also lost money in the wake of Liew's disappearance.

The Ferrier Hodgson investigator outlined his proposed plan of action starting with the appointment of a third-party provisional liquidator to take control of the companies based in Hong Kong and the British Virgin Islands.

Ferrier Hodgson will also question PIPC staffers in Singapore, especially since Liew's personal assistant is based there.

It also intends to obtain court approval in the British Virgin Islands for the appointment of provisional liquidators for entities within the group.

Passwords

"Once appointed, they will be able to obtain records and electronic data from banks," the investor's notes read.

The Thursday meeting was conducted in secrecy with passwords being issued to investors who had to mention the name "Ferrier Hodgson" to security guards before they were allowed to drive into the clubhouse premises and join the meeting.

Apart from the PIPC's Tuason and the Ferrier Hodgson investigator, the meeting was also attended by lawyer Antonio Gonzalez, who is also Tuason's brother, and PIPC brokers.

Investors seen at the standing-room-only meeting included socialites and members of prominent families, several ethnic Chinese and Indians and other expatriates. Some of the investors apparently knew Tuason personally.

No answers

Tuason refused to answer questions from the investors, which infuriated them even more, the INQUIRER source said. She spoke only to introduce Batchelor, who did most of the talking, and kept referring to her lawyer when investors demanded answers from her.

Toward the end of the meeting, the proceedings became chaotic with investors talking at the same time and demanding that Tuason personally answer their questions, the source said.

He said all the questions boiled down to: What happened? Why did you let it happen? Why didn't you inform us before it was too late? How are we going to get our money back?

Young and restless 1st termers set to rock House

From page A1

ple our age go to," mostly bars or restaurants, for fun or to talk shop.

Martini's

He said the group usually goes to Martini's, a watering hole for the young and wealthy at the Mandarin Oriental hotel.

All three are members of the majority coalition in the House. Gatchalian is a Nationalist People's Coalition member while Tan, who seconded the nomination of Speaker Jose de Venecia during last Monday's election for the speakership election, is a Lakas member.

Tan administered De Venecia's oath as the record-breaking five-term Speaker.

Other members of the group are Biliran Rep. Glenn Chong, 32, and Caloocan City Rep. Mitch Cajayon, 29.

Chong dealt the Espina family, the dominant political clan in Biliran province, its first electoral loss by defeating the patriarch Gerardo. Cajayon beat Caloocan Rep. Edgar Erice.

"We got together because we have common friends. Naturally, we got together because we are of the same age bracket," said Gatchalian who is a son of the ethnic Chinese businessman William Gatchalian.

Rexlon's older brother, Kenneth, 32, was a candidate of the Anak party-list group which failed to get the required number of votes. Another brother, Sherwin, 36, is the mayor of Valenzuela, Bulacan.

Bills filed

Gatchalian acknowledged that with the group of newcomers' diverse political affiliations and agendas, they might still be far from forming a formidable bloc.

"We talk about politics but we don't impose our politics on one another. If we do that, there might not be a group to speak of now," Gatchalian said.

"Perhaps, with our group we can more easily ask each other to support our pet bills," Gatchalian said.

He has already filed three bills for the welfare of overseas Filipino workers while Tan is set to file her version of a bill setting up a one-stop shop for land registration.

Anti-dynasty bill discriminates

Gatchalian and Tan acknowledge being members of political dynasties but don't see it compromising their independence or reform agenda.

"My mother and I think differently. And besides the local government and the legislature are two different worlds," said Tan, who is a daughter of Samar Gov. Milagros Tan.

"An anti-dynasty bill is a regressive bill. It discriminates ... How would you feel if you and your brother both want to write but because you're already a writer people would tell your brother he could no longer do so?" Gatchalian told an editor.

All three are eager to learn how to be effective in the House from their betters. Gatchalian and Tan look on Sen. Francis Escudero, a former Sorsogon congressman and one of the Estrada "Bright Boys," as a role model.

Role models

In Gatchalian's view, Escudero has shown that "wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age."

Among the present crop of congressmen, Gatchalian said he wants to learn most from Makati Rep. Teodoro Locsin Jr.

"I didn't think he was a lawyer because he is able to present his ideas in a way that is easily understood," he said.

Tan, a seatmate of constitutionalist La Union Rep. Victor Ortega during the first session days, said the veteran politician has already begun mentoring her.

"I like his views," Tan said.

There are 100 first-termers in the 224-member House, if you include the "returning veterans," or those who have already served three consecutive terms and have returned to reclaim seats that were being warmed by relatives. Excluding this group, there are 80 outright first-termers in the 14th Congress.

Edsa I, II

Gatchalian, Tieng and Tan are much too young to remember a key event in the country's recent history, the assassination of opposition leader Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino in August 1983 and the ouster of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos that followed from it.

"I was just one year old in 1983," said Tan.

Tieng said he was just three years old in 1983 and can't recall what he was doing.

Gatchalian said he was four in 1983, but remembers his family taking part in the first People Power revolution of 1986.

"People from all walks of life, even apolitical individuals like [members of] my family came out and supported the cause," he said.

Tieng remembers being with his family and praying during the first Edsa.

"We were all at home. I remember we were all praying for peace," he said.

Tan and Tieng remember taking part in the protests against Estrada during the second people power revolution in January 2001.

"I went to Edsa and brought food to show my support," said Tieng, a son of Solar Entertainment president Wilson.

"I remember there were no classes. We wore black shirts and went to Fuente Osmeña to attend a rally," said Tan, who graduated from Cebu's University of San Carlos with a degree in pharmacy.

Gatchalian, whose father was a friend of Estrada's, said the second Edsa was "too politicized."

JDV to tell IMF: No new taxes

By Norman Bordadora

SPEAKER JOSE DE VENECIA YESterday reiterated the commitment he made earlier that the House of Representatives would not pass new tax measures and to guarantee this, he would tell no less than the head of the International Monetary Fund about his agenda.

De Venecia is scheduled to meet with IMF Managing Director Rodrigo de Rato on Tuesday to discuss the government's implementation of tax reform measures. De Rato is the first IMF top executive to visit the country in more than a decade.

"The government must raise new revenues not by imposing more taxes but by extracting greater zeal and efficiency from our revenue agencies, and by tightening up on stand-alone incentives to business," De Venecia said in a statement.

"There should be a full mobilization of collection in the Bureau of Customs and the Bureau of Internal Revenue by dramatically reducing smuggling," he said.

A few years ago, the IMF had asked the Philippines to come up with new taxes to raise enough revenue. This contributed greatly to the recent passage of the Expanded Value-Added Tax law.

De Venecia said he would formally inform the IMF managing director that no new tax measures would be enacted by the government at this time.

The Speaker's statement came in the wake of a warning of a possible credit rating downgrade from Hong Kong-based Fitch because of a recent shortfall in government revenues.

De Venecia said a high-powered economic team from the House would join him in the meeting with De Rato.

De Venecia said it was De Rato who requested the meeting to get "first-hand knowledge of the recent success with reforms, as well as to discuss how the IMF can be supportive of the Philippines going forward."

Joining De Venecia at the meeting will be Albay Rep. Edcel Lagman, Quirino Rep. Junie Cua and Antique Rep. Exequiel Javier.

CUERVO FAR EAST

FOR SALE OFFICE SPACE

For INQUIRIES & SITE INSPECTION

Maite Calero
+63 2 7506610
mcalero@cuervo.com.ph

Tetet D. Castro
+63 2 7506609
tcastro@cuervo.com.ph

Location: Legaspi Village, Makati
Floor Area: 600.53 square meters

CUSHMAN & WAKEFIELD.

Stiffer penalties for icon theft proposed

CAMARINES SUR—Rep. Luis Villafuerte has proposed a law that would increase the punishment for stealing religious icons.

Villafuerte is pushing for a bill that would make the punishment for theft or robbery committed within any church, temple or public museum higher by two degrees than the penalty for such offenses under existing law.

"The theft of religious icons, and likewise of relics and artistic works that constitute the finest expressions of our culture, traditions and way of life, arouses national indignation. This national indignation should find corresponding utterance in our criminal laws," Villafuerte said.

Villafuerte said the theft of religious icons remained a cause for concern in the country.

Only recently, a life-size marble statue of San Antonio de Padua, the patron saint of lost articles, stolen from the San Diego de Alcala Parish in Valenzuela City was recovered.

The icon, which had been in the church for more than 50 years, was returned anonymously to the newsroom of a television network.

A year ago, an 18th century image of St. Vincent Ferrer was taken from the belfry of the St. Vincent Ferrer Church in Dupax del Sur, Nueva Vizcaya, one of the oldest Catholic churches in Northern Luzon.

From the point of view of public policy and penology, the lawmaker said the proposed higher penalty was justified.

Norman Bordadora

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 29, 2007
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

Let not my Lord grow angry.

Yahweh said, "How great is the cry for justice against Sodom and Gomorrah! And how grievous is their sin! I am going down to see if they have done all that they are charged with in the outcry that has reached me. If it is not so, I will know."

The men with him turned away and went towards Sodom, but Yahweh remained standing before Abraham. Abraham went forward and said, "Will you really let the just perish with the wicked? Perhaps there are fifty good people in the town. Are you really going to let them perish? Would you not spare the place for the sake of these 50 righteous people? It would not be at all like you to do such a thing and you can't let the good perish with the wicked, nor treat the good and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the judge of all the earth be just?" Yahweh said, "If I find 50 good people in Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

Abraham spoke up again, "I know that I am very bold to speak like this to my Lord, I who am only dust and ashes! But perhaps the number of the good is five less than fifty. Will you destroy the town because of five?" Yahweh replied, "I will not destroy the town if I find 45 good people there." Again Abraham said to him, "Perhaps there will be only forty." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Abraham went on, saying, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak. Maybe only 30 good people will be found in the town." Yahweh answered, "I will not destroy it if I find 30 there." Abraham said, "Now that I have been so bold as to speak to my Lord, what if only 20 can be found?" He said, "For the sake of 20 I will not destroy the place."

But Abraham insisted, "May my Lord not be angry, but let me speak just once more. What if only 10 can be found?" And Yahweh answered, "For the sake of 10 good people, I will not destroy Sodom."

2nd Reading: Colossians 2:12-14

God has brought you to life.

I refer to baptism. On receiving it you were buried with Christ; and you also rose with him for having believed in the power of God who raised him from the dead.

You were dead. You were in sin and uncircumcised at the same time. But God gave you life with Christ. He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of our debts, those regulations which accused us. He did away with all that and nailed it to the cross.

Gospel: Luke 11:1-13

Ask and you will receive.

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples." And Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say this:

Father, hallowed be your name,
may your kingdom come,
give us each day the kind of bread we need,
and forgive us our sins,
for we also forgive all who do us wrong,
and do not bring us to the test."

Jesus said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to his house in the middle of the night and says: 'Friend, lend me three loaves, for a friend of mine who is traveling has just arrived and I have nothing to offer him.' Maybe your friend will answer from inside: 'Don't bother me now; the door is locked and my children and I are in bed, so I can't get up and give you anything.' But I tell you, even though he will not get up and attend to you because you are a friend, yet he will get up because you are a bother to him, and he will give you all you need.

"And so I say to you, 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For the one who asks receives, and the one who searches finds, and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

"If your child asks for a fish, will you give a snake instead? And if your child asks for an egg, will you give a scorpion? Even you evil people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more then will the Father in heaven give holy spirit to those who ask him!"

Commentary

We hear the story of the intended destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah because of their evil. But Abraham pleads on their behalf. Save the city for the sake of the just that dwell there as well…if only there are 50, 40, 30, 20…even 10. And God agrees. And what of our cities, with our economies, how we treat immigrants, strangers, the poor and the homeless, the callousness of our budgets and laws—are there even 10 just ones among us that might save us? Are we pleading on behalf of other places?

We are alive in Christ, dead to sin. The cross has been our lifeline and root. Jesus teaches us to pray. We are all one, with one Father and we seek to worship God's name and bring the kingdom of God—of mercy, justice, charity, reconciliation, and at-one-ment, with no harm to anyone in need. We ask to provide for everyone's need for today, sharing of our abundance while trusting in our Father. We ask for mercy and give it always, everywhere, to everyone. We ask for courage to stand fast in the face of difficulty and temptation and to stand faithful even at our dying. When we pray we must attend to God with trust and confidence, knowing he is our Father. And if we must ask, ask for the Spirit that binds us all as one in God.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications) & http://www.claretphilippines.org (Claretian Missionaries in the Philippines)

Spanish-inspired community in Quezon City...

Don't miss our OPEN HOUSE today, July 29.

It's your *last day* to purchase your very own unit at old prices starting at P642,000* S/F 20sqm unit

Phase I ready for occupancy.

Now selling Phase 2.

San Benissa GARDEN VILLAS

*Prices & specs subject to change without prior notice

PHINMA PROPERTY HOLDINGS CORP.
City Living Made Easy

HOW TO GET THERE: From EDSA northbound, turn right to either East, Quezon or North Avenues, go straight until you reach the Quezon City Elliptical Circle. Turn right to Commonwealth Avenue and drive straight until you reach the unpaved portion. For commuters, take Jordan Plaines Subdivision jeepney & get off at the gate.

812-PPHC (7742) • 0917-812-PPHC (7742)
Boomland Realty: 939-7338 • Human Shelter Realty: 948-8178

CEBUPACIFICAIR.COM

ASIA SEAT SALE
All abroad na with Cebu Pacific!

₱999
Manila - Bangkok, Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Macau, Taipei or Xiamen
Cebu - Hong Kong

₱1999
Manila - Shanghai or Singapore
Cebu - Singapore
Davao - Hong Kong or Singapore (via Cebu)

Sale Period: July 27 to 31, 2007
Travel Period: September 1 to December 15, 2007
Promo is non-refundable

LOWEST YEAR-ROUND GO FARES

₱98
Cebu - Bacolod or Iloilo
Manila - Laoag or Legaspi

₱288
Cebu - Clark, Davao, Kalibo (for Boracay!), Puerto Princesa or Zamboanga
Manila - Bacolod, Cebu, Dumaguete, Iloilo, Kalibo (for Boracay!), Puerto Princesa, Roxas, Tagbilaran or Tacloban
Davao - Zamboanga

₱688
Manila - Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Cotabato, Davao, Dipolog, General Santos or Zamboanga

Domestic fuel and insurance surcharges range from PHP 650 to PHP 1,100.
International fuel and insurance surcharges range from USD 20 to USD 44.

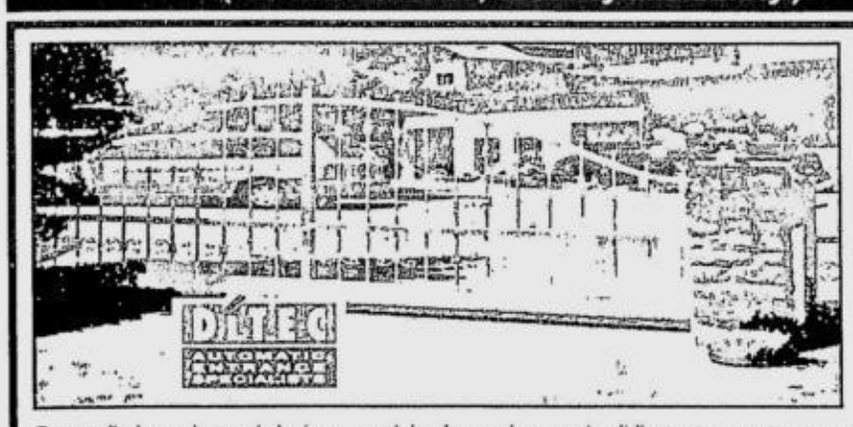
MOST DOMESTIC DESTINATIONS • MOST DOMESTIC FLIGHTS • MOST DOMESTIC ROUTES • NEWEST PLANES

Call (02) 70-20-888
or visit the Travel Agent nearest you.

One way fares/vice versa • Limited seats • Fares may not be available on all days and flights • Fares are exclusive of applicable fees, taxes, and surcharges

CEBU PACIFIC
It's time everyone flies.

AUTOMATIC GATES
(For convenience, security and safety.)



Remote
Infrared Photocell
Lamp Flashing Light

Do you find opening and closing your gates a problem?
Call us.
We offer a complete range of models for swing and sliding gates designed with remote control for convenience and photocells for maximum operational safety.
Our pricing is most competitive for any size of gates.
Enlightened choices through better products. For a better life. From Multi-Line.

Quezon City ☎ 929-9911, 412-8285 | Angeles ☎ 882-1858 | Mandaue ☎ 346-5413 | Iloilo ☎ 338-1355 | Davao ☎ 299-2694 | GenSan ☎ 552-3700 | CDO ☎ 720-752

Multi-Line | Simply Creative

LEARNING ALL ABOUT PINOY TEACHERS in the US: Documentary producer Tony Gloria and Ramona Diaz (center) pose with Baltimore schoolteachers Rhea Espedido (left) and Mary Angel Alim. RYAN LIM

Docu tells story of RP ...

From page A1

"Imelda" won Best Cinematography at the Sundance Film Festival, was in the country for almost a month shooting scenes for her latest documentary, "The Learning."

After controversial First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, the filmmaker has aimed her camera at a group of Filipino schoolteachers who have migrated to Baltimore, Maryland, to teach in inner-city schools.

Diaz and her team—director of photography Gabriel Goodenough and sound man Paul Flinton—were in the Philippines recently to film the homecoming of four teachers—all women: Dorotea Godinez of Cebu, Rhea Espedido of Sorsogon, Mary Angel Alim of Antipolo and Grace Amper of Cagayan de Oro.

It was a whirlwind trip, not only for the teachers, but also for Diaz and her ragtag crew.

"It was tiring," she told the INQUIRER in an interview at the Unitel office in Makati City, a week before flying back to Baltimore early this month.

Also present at the interview were Unitel chief Tony Gloria and two of the docu's "stars," teachers Espedido and Alim.

"From Cagayan we went to Malaybalay, Bukidnon. We also spent some time in Bogo, Cebu, also Legazpi and Manila."

Her American crew, however, savored the sights and sounds of the countryside. "They couldn't believe that in their short trip, they saw the real Philippines," she recounted.

Pinoy at heart

Cameraman Goodenough, who had developed a fondness for Pinoy rock songs (like Alamid's "Your Love"), told Diaz he loved his stay here so much he wanted to become a Filipino.

An American giving up his citizenship to become a Filipino? It was unheard of! The Philippines' Bureau of Immigration wouldn't know how to handle such an application, Diaz joked.

Turning serious, she estimated that she had accumulated 759 hours of raw footage for "The Learning," set to premiere in the Sundance film festival next year.

Unlike "Imelda," which centered on one person, "The Learning" is more complex. "It's an unfolding tale—following multiple story lines," Diaz said.

She has been shooting the docu for a year and a half—trailing four teachers from their recruitment in the Philippines to their adjustment period in Baltimore to their eventual homecoming after a year of work.

Like solving a puzzle

Principal photography is finished, according to Diaz. "It's almost in the can. I just have two to three days to shoot the teachers' return to the US."

Then the hard work begins—in the editing room.

"Documentaries like this are really fashioned in the editing room. Editing can make or break a film. Docus need to be nurtured in post-production," she said.

Diaz is hands-on in the editing room. "I do the choosing [of scenes] because they are mostly in Tagalog and my editor, Kim Roberts, is an American. If Kim were to watch everything that I've shot, it would take her six months!"

Film as journey

The docu, produced by Gloria's Unitel, was also partly funded by the Sundance Institute and the Center for Asian American Media.

"She's been shooting for over a year with very little resources," Gloria said. "A lesser filmmaker would've quit a long time ago. Fortunately, she feels strongly about this story. It's been a journey for Ramona and the teachers."

So what has kept Diaz to pursue what seems to be an exhausting journey?

"I'm not a quitter. The thing is, something new was happening all the time. In the end, the teachers themselves were calling me about the latest developments," she said.

The seed

To think that Diaz picked up the project because she had wanted to stay closer to home.

"After traveling constantly with 'Imelda,' I got so tired I wanted to stay put in Baltimore, where I live," she recalled.

While browsing through the newspaper, Baltimore Sun, Diaz found out about the first batch of Filipino teachers who moved to Maryland in 2005. That was the seed of "The Learning."

"But I wanted to focus on the second batch of teachers, so I can follow them as they adjusted to their new life in the United States," she said.

In the process, the filmmaker and the teachers became close friends.

"I know things about them not even their own families know," she quipped.

Stranger in the family

For instance, Diaz felt for Amper when she returned to the Philippines and her 2-year-old son didn't recognize her.

Diaz experienced Alim's thrill when her African-American students performed *pandango sa ilaw* and "Pinoy Ako."

"In the beginning, most of these school kids didn't even know where the Philippines was," the filmmaker said. "It's good for these marginalized students to get acquainted with a different culture through their teachers. It widens their horizons."

She, however, did not gloss over the migration's possible negative effect on the Philippine school system. "The good teachers are leaving. Filipino children are not getting the benefits of being taught by veteran teachers. But we can't really blame them. A lot of these teachers told me that if only they were paid enough here, they'd never leave."

Cream of the crop

In the fall of 2006, there were already 400 Filipino teachers in Baltimore City.

Producer Gloria said: "In the docu, a school supervisor said the United States is getting the cream of the crop. The students are charmed by Filipino teachers because they're so motherly."

In one scene, Godinez, another teacher, was grilling an African-American student who got pregnant, as if the teener were her own daughter.

"Some of these kids have no parents to go home to," Diaz said.

Teachers Espedido and Alim told the INQUIRER what it was like to teach inner-city kids in the United States.

"We have a no-touch policy in school," Espedido said.

"But it's the kids themselves who embrace us first," Alim said.

"The kids' faces brighten up when they hug their teachers," Diaz added.

Culture shock

Initially, the teachers encountered resistance. Espedido and Alim recalled grappling with culture shock.

"I had to send a kid to the principal's office and he was just in first grade," Espedido said.

"I had to remind the kids not to break the glasses [used] in *pandango sa ilaw*," Alim said. "They found it strange that candles are used in dancing because they only light candles for the dead."

Espedido and Alim also said their students described Filipino food as "nasty."

Universal theme

Alim related: "I brought them to a Philippine festival and treated them to *halo-halo*. At first, they said it was weird but they finished their *halo-halo*."

Diaz said: "You have to be tough. It's a hard population to teach. But at the end of the day, you realize they are just children."

She admitted that the docu was a challenging shoot but she would gladly relive the process of telling the teachers' stories.

"In a way, it's a homage to the teaching profession," she explained. "It reflects our time. The theme is very universal. Filipinos are not the only ones flocking to the US, thinking it's a land of milk and honey ... only to discover it's not always milk and honey."

Neri is education czar

From page A1

"I was asked to transfer there. There is work to be done there—reforms that the President wants fast," he said.

Asked about outgoing CHEd Chair Carlito Puno's fate, he said: "I don't know yet."

Puno was a commissioner at CHEd starting in 2001; he was appointed regular chair in January 2004.

His tenure as regular chair expired in July 2006, and he was consequently reappointed acting chair.

But according to Puno, he did not take on the appointment as acting chair because it was a demotion, and had continued as a regular chair in a holdover capacity up to the present.

Neri said he was ready to take on the job.

Asked if Ms Arroyo was sending "a top economic manager" like himself to do troubleshooting at CHEd, he replied in the affirmative.

"Well, I'm an educator myself," Neri said. "I was a professor of finance for 16 years at the AIM (Asian Institute of Management). All I know is I'm familiar with education. I am an academician myself. I'm familiar with the workings of the academe."

As revealed the other day to the INQUIRER by a congressional leader privy to the latest Cabinet change, Neri is to return to his Neda post after six months.

Augusto Santos, the deputy director general of Neda, will serve as officer in charge during Neri's absence.

"I have to go back after six months, hoping I can do my job properly," Neri said.

To solve 'mismatch'

Presidential Management Staff chief Cerge Remonde said Neri's transfer was part of a "continuing, not a one-time wholesale revamp," of the Cabinet.

In an interview over Radyo ng Bayan, Remonde said more Cabinet members would be relieved or reassigned to other posts because the President was "responding to the call of the times."

"You can't rule out [a Cabinet revamp]. That's part of dynamic leadership and dynamic governance. You really have to make continuous adjustments in the bureaucracy to make [it] more responsive to the challenges and needs of the times," he said.

Remonde said the reshuffle of Ms Arroyo's official family would be done "as the need arises."

"And the President is precisely given enough powers and prerogatives to be able to do these things, so that she can effectively govern," he said.

NERI: Troubleshooting in education mired in a crisis.

Ms Arroyo has effected changes in her Cabinet since June 30, appointing Tarlac Rep. Gilbert Teodoro as defense secretary to replace Hermogenes Ebdane, who was returned to his old post as public works secretary; naming former Manila Mayor Lito Atienza to replace Angelo Reyes, who will move to the energy department, and sacking Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Mario Buñag.

Remonde confirmed that Neri's transfer would address the worsening "mismatch" in the education sector.

"To solve that mismatch, we have to reorient our education system, particularly higher education," he said. "So we have to go through more 'techvoc,' or technical-vocational, engineering courses. We're promoting entrepreneurship, education reoriented to entrepreneurship, instead of just [studying to be able to get] employment, among other things."

Remonde said Ms Arroyo had named the presidential assistant to take charge of the planned educational reforms.

"I know, but I'm not at liberty to divulge it. My lips are sealed for the moment," he said, adding that the creation of a de facto "education czar" would harmonize the government's policy on education.

No more gov't post

In a phone interview, Puno said that while he was willing to vacate his post at CHEd, he had informed the Palace that he was not keen on accepting another post in the government.

"We all work at the pleasure of the President. We come and go, and it is her prerogative. However, it is also my prerogative to continue in the government or not," he said.

Puno said representatives of Malacañang called him as early as Tuesday last week to offer him the chairmanship of a government-owned and -controlled corporation in exchange for his removal from CHEd.

He said he received calls from the Palace yesterday morning regarding the offer but that he remained firm on his position: "I have been consistent. I am not willing to accept any other position."

He refused to comment on the President's decision to appoint Neri in his place, saying the situation was still uncertain at this point because the appointment papers had yet to be signed.

Only last Thursday, Puno announced CHEd's new projects, including a massive tree-planting program and increasing financing for student loans from P215 million to P4 billion, through the Land Bank of the Philippines. *(See story on Page A9.)*

What businesses want

According to Neri, one solution to the mismatch between market demand and higher education output is to "coordinate with our businesses, find out what they really want ... to make sure we get the curriculum relevant to the needs of the businesses."

Prior to the issuance of EO 632, the NCCE—which was created under EO 273 in 2000—had specific mandates: To serve as a regular forum for "trans-subsectoral consultations on cross-cutting policies and programs," harmonize goals and objectives for the entire educational system and dovetail them to national development plans, review existing and proposed programs for coordination, set priorities, monitor implementation of reforms, and designate and provide guidelines for Philippine representatives in international and national conferences.

The NCCE had been chaired on a rotating basis every two years by the heads of the Department of Education, CHEd and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda).

But per EO 632, CHEd and DepEd "vehemently opposed the Tesda chairmanship" currently held by former Rep. Augusto Syjuco.

Ms Arroyo said EO 632 would "take effect immediately" because of "the need to synchronize and harmonize the government's educational policies, programs and initiatives, [which] becomes all the more urgent given our country's ranking in world competitiveness." *With a report from Beverly T. Natividad*

Practical joke makes dentist ...

From page A1

Washington state, had put in the phony tusks while the woman was under anesthesia for a different procedure. He took them out before she awoke, but he first shot photos that eventually made it around the office.

The employee, Tina Alberts, felt so humiliated when she saw the pictures that she quit and sued her boss.

Very profitable

Woo's insurance company, Fireman's Fund, refused to cover the claim, saying the practical joke was intentional and not a normal business activity his insurance policy covered, so Woo settled out of court. He agreed to pay Alberts $250,000, then he sued his insurers.

A King County Superior Court jury sided with Woo, ordering Fireman's Fund to pay him $750,000, plus the out-of-court settlement. The insurance company won the next round, with the state Court of Appeals saying the prank had nothing to do with Woo's practice of dentistry. On Thursday, the state Supreme Court restored Woo's award.

In a 5-4 decision, Supreme Court Justice Mary Fairhurst wrote that Woo's practical joke was an integral, if odd, part of the assistant's dental surgery and "conceivably" should trigger the professional liability coverage of his policy.

Dissenting Justice James Johnson said the prank wasn't a dental procedure at all and only "rewards Dr. Woo's obnoxious behavior and allows him to profit handsomely."

'Friendly working environment'

The back story, the court wrote, is that Alberts' family raises potbellied pigs and that she frequently talked about them at the office where she worked for five years.

Woo said his jests about the pigs were part of "a friendly working environment" that he tried to foster.

The oral surgery on Alberts was intended to replace two of her teeth with implants, which Woo did. First, though, he installed temporary bridges that he had shaped to look like boar tusks, and while Alberts was still under anesthesia, he took photos, some with her eyes propped open. Before she woke up, he removed the "tusks" and put in the proper replacement teeth.

Woo says he did not personally show her the pictures but staffers gave her copies at a birthday party.

Woo's lawyer, Richard Kilpatrick, described the surgeon as a kindhearted, fun-loving man who was chagrined that an office prank turned out so badly. He was delighted with the high court's decision, Kilpatrick said.

Attorneys for the insurance company did not immediately return calls seeking comment. *AP*

FIERY SENTIMENTS: Protesters burn posters of President Macapagal-Arroyo, US President George W. Bush and Deputy Secretary of State John Negroponte at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. They were protesting the US role in the ongoing 40th Asean Ministerial Meeting and the 14th Asean Regional Forum taking place from July29 to Aug.2 JOAN BONDOC

Students may borrow up to P30,000

STUDENTS MAY soon avail themselves of loans from the government of as much as P30,000 per year to finance their education and pay for it later.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) is increasing its funding for student loans to P4 billion from P215 million, said CHEd chair Carlito Puno.

The funds could be availed of as early as the second semester of the current school year which begins in November. The student loan program's bank is the Land Bank of the Philippines which has committed itself to providing some P1 billion in funding, Puno said.

"We don't want the qualification standards to be really strict because this is not a scholarship program but a financial aid program. The student loans can be partly operable by the second semester this year and will be fully implemented by 2008," Puno said.

Puno explained that while the CHEd was able to lend some 38,000 students only about P5,000 each per semester with the previous amount, it would now be able to provide about P30,000 per year (or P15,000 per semester) to each of almost 200,000 student beneficiaries.

CHEd, he said, was finalizing the mechanics of the loan program in time for the start of the second semester.

He said the funds would most likely be coursed through school cooperatives by Landbank to make it easier for the students to access the money.

"The Landbank and CHEd want to use the relationship we have established with the cooperatives so this program could reach its intended beneficiaries," said Puno. *Beverly T. Natividad*

Silence means yes...

Break the silence with TheraBreath features the Oxygenating Technology to refresh Breath & Taste safely & effectively WITHOUT any harmful chemicals

NORVILLE FRESH BREATHERAPY CENTER

iwata EVAPORATIVE AIR-CONDITIONER

SAVE 80%± ON AIRCON ELECTRICITY COST!

KLF-12B3XP (Side Airflow) 750Watts / 100+Sq.M

INDUSTRIAL MODELS Heavy Duty with 4 Big Cooling Pads & Strong, Powerful Fan Blades for Maximum Cooling Effect.

PROMO SALE 46,995.00

FREE ESTIMATE ON AIR DUCT INSTALLATION

KLF-18A3XP (Bottom Airflow) 1,100Watts / 150+Sq.M

METRO MANILA & PROVINCIAL DEALERS WELCOME

COLENT ENTERPRISE COMPANY

For inquiries, call Sole Agent: Suite 200 Del Monte Mansion Bldg. 210 Del Monte Avenue cor 210 Speaker Perez Street, Quezon City Tel No: 412-4317, 740-3815, 411-2396 to 98, 742-8138-42 Fax No: 411-2399 Email: colent@pldtdsl.net

ADAMS vacations & pilgrimages

Spectacular SCANDINAVIA & Imperial RUSSIA w/ Mighty Fjords + 4 "Culture Capitals" • Aug 29

BEST OF EUROPE BEST SELLER!! Lourdes & Fatima (8 countries) • Oct 14

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE Lourdes, Fatima & MEDJUGORJE • Sept 15

HOLYLAND/JORDAN & EGYPT $ 1,888 only w/ new 7th Wonder of the World Oct 15/17/22 w/ chaplains

HOLYLAND/GREECE & EGYPT • Oct 14

SHANGRILA

INDIA: Agra, Delhi, Jaipur • Sept. 12 Kashmir, Tibet/Kathmandu, Bangkok

GRAND CHINA W/ 3 GORGES CRUISE: Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Guilin River, Chongqing • Sept. 15

JAPAN in Glorious Autumn Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nara, Hakone, Disney etc.

NEW ZEALAND AUSTRALIA Auckland, Rotorua, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Christchurch, Sydney, etc.

BEIJING + SHANGHAI

CRUISES

Mediterranean	$ 1,349 • Sept • Oct
Asian Cruise	$ 439 only
Greek Isles & Turkey	$ 1,099 • Sept 22
Alaska	$ 889 • Sep. 22

U.S. LAND TOURS

West Coast	$ 755
East Coast	$ 595
East Coast & Canada	$ 645

Adams EXPRESS TRAVEL Expert Visa Assistance PTAA • Soaring High at 21 Multi Awarded •

M.H. Del Pilar cor. T. M. Kalaw, Ermita, Manila

6-Storey Residential condo

DOLMAR Golden Heights residences along Elisco Rd., Pasig City

READY FOR OCCUPANCY

MONTHLY AMORTIZATION FOR AS LOW AS P11,500 DOWNPAYMENT 18 MONTHS TO PAY @ 0% INTEREST

Available thru Bank, In-House & PAG-IBIG Financing

BROKERS & AGENTS ARE WELCOME FOR ACCREDITATION. PLEASE LOOK FOR ELLA AT 726-0593 • 0917-8052889

For inquiries, pls. call: 726-0593 • Loc. 101, 102 & 103 Site office: 640-2698

Dolmar Property Ventures, Inc. www.dolmar.com.ph HLURB lic. to sell: 13487

FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY In the forefront of Philippine education since 1928

NCLEX / CGFNS Review Classes For all BSN GRADUATES & REGISTERED NURSES

ENROLLMENT GOING ON REVIEW CLASSES START ON AUGUST 5, 2007

FEU - CENTER FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION - PREPARING FOR A BETTER LIFE AHEAD Dean Violeta L. Jerusalem or Raquel Rapirap Center for Continuing Education Office, Ground Floor Arts Building, Far Eastern University Telefax 735-0038 • Tel. Nos. 735-5621 (loc. 225 or 226)

INSTITUTE OF NURSING Law Building, Far Eastern University, Nicanor Reyes Street, Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines Tel. Nos. 735-8713 / 735-5621 (loc. 244) • Telefax 735-8695 Email in@feu.edu.ph • look for Gloria Yang, RN, MAN or Yolly Bello www.feu.edu.ph

CAR LOAN "R" US PAY-OFF BANK BALANCE USED CAR / TRUCK / MOTORCYCLE AS COLLATERAL

GRNHILLS	G. Araneta	MAKATI
721-4466	781-5355	896-6630

FREE Meditation and Ageless Wisdom Seminar

Learn to Meditate correctly and safely! Schedule your free learning sessions with us @ your most convenient dates

No forced 3rd-eye awakening that may expose you to spirit possession
No kundalini or chakra activation that may lead to imbalances in the endocrine glands, diseases, depressions and psychoses
No channeling or mediumship to contact so called 'spirit guides' to manipulate your mind or life
No self-hypnotic methods to make your mind blank or passive
No gurus or masters for you to worship or to imitate you

Ageless Wisdom Library (Books on Esoteric Philosophy by Alice A. Bailey) 409-A Wack-Wack Twin Towers, Wack-Wack Rd. cor. Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong. Call us to schedule u @ 725-4519, Txt 0918-9791451 (Baguio) (074)446-9750 Txt 0920-6047145 www.lightnetonline.org/seminar.html

Discover the Philippines & see the World with... SKYNET TRAVEL CORPORATION IATA PTAA PIATA PHILTOA PTTC

Manila Office: TEL. 400.0509/ 400.0510 / 521-7596 MOBILE: 0921.445.1778 / 0922.845.1778 Ortigas Ctr Branch: TEL. 633.2399 / 633.9976 / 635.6211 / 631.8354 MOBILE: 0915.939.7681 NAITAS

Booking Offices:

Baguio (074) 619.0429	Dipolog (065) 212.9030
Bataan (047) 237.4544	Iloilo (033) 509.2777
CGY de Oro (8822) 714.166	La Union (072) 888.3998
Cainta 284.2097	Legaspi (052) 480.5293
Cavite (046) 417.2707	Ozamis (088) 521.1555
Cebu (032) 255.1603	Tacloban (053)C 325.8254
Dagupan (075) 515.3797	Tuguegarao (078) 846.0832

BRUNEI HARI RAYA

3D/2N	13-16 October	445
4D/3N	12-15 or 13-16 Oct	530

3D/2N Hongkong Promo	133
w/ Disneyland Day Tour	189

Australia Twin City 7D/6N

Sydney & Melbourne	978
Sydney & Gold Coast	999
Melbourne & Gold Coast	1015

4D/3N Shenzhen	139		
2N Shenzhen + 1N Macau	169	1N Shenzhen + 3N Beijing - 1N Macau	429
1N Macau + 1N HKG + 1N Shenzhen	199	1N Shenzhen + 2N SHA 3N Beijing + 1N Macau	499

HONGKONG DISNEYLAND

2N Hongkong w/ Disney Day Tour	245
1N Macau+1N HKG+1N Shenzhen w/ Disney Day Tour	249
1N Hongkong + 1N Disneyland	268
2N Hongkong + 1N Disneyland	295
1N Macau+1N HKG+2N Shenzhen w/ Disney Day Tour	339

KUALA 3N	169	3D/2N TAIPEI	369
BANGKOK 3N	185	5D/4N BKK+HKG	383
Kuala+Genting	193	4D/3N BEIJING	408
SINGAPORE 3N	219	5D/4N SIN+HKG	420
JAKARTA 3N	239	4-City (Singapore/Malaysia /Indonesia/Brunei) 5D/4N	449
4D/3N MACAU	259		
3-City (Singapore/Malaysia /Indonesia) 3N	269	4D/3N SAIPAN	489
3D/2N SAIGON	279	7D/6N BKK+SIN+HKG	533
MALAYSIA w/overland SIN 5N	289	4D/3N KOREA	589
		4D/3N MELBOURNE	695
3D/2N BRUNEI	315	4D/3N SYDNEY	709
4D/3N SHANGHAI	328	4D/3N GOLD COAST	725
2N Bkk + 2N Brunei	345	4D/3N DUBAI	999
		8D/7N TURKEY	1899
3D/2N GUAM	359	8D/7N EUROPE	2988

Cebu 3D/2N P3159	Davao 3D/2N P4199
Boracay 3D/2N P3849	Bohol 3D/2N P4599
	Palawan 3D/2N P4999

UMUULAN NG DISKWENTO! KAYANG-KAYA MO NA ITO!

Bumabagyo ng diskwento para sa iyo! Up to 50% off sa maraming items, 25% off sa mga tile trims at 10% off sa grout at adhesive. Pumunta sa pinakamalapit na Rey Marketing branch sa lugar ninyo!

mula Aug 03 - Aug 04 lamang

Valid on cash purchases & same day pick-up only

Metro Manila Branches : ANTIPOLO : Circumferential Road, San Roque, Antipolo 6971679 ; G / F Molvina Complex, Brgy. Mayamot, Marcos Hi-way, Antipolo 6826743 LAS PIÑAS : Almanza Uno, Alabang-Zapote Road, Las Piñas City 8059295 MARIKINA Lot 2-A JP Rizal St., Brgy. Nangka Marikina City 9480231 PASIG Rey Marketing Compound, C. Raymundo Ave.,Rosario, Pasig City 6416196 QUEZON CITY No. 8 Victory Ave. Q.C. 7811987 ; 270 Commonwealth Ave., Tandang Sora, Q.C. 9317337 ; 1127 Quirino Highway, Novaliches, Q. C. 9389073 PARAÑAQUE No. 8390 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City 8298268 TANAY F. Catapusan St., Tanay, Rizal 6541940 TAYTAY Km 21 Ortigas Ave. Extension, San Isidro, Tatay, Rizal 6607040 VALENZUELA 415 MacArthur Highway, Dalandanan, Valenzuela City 2918058 **PROVINCIAL BRANCHES** : BATANGAS Nat'l Highway Brgy. 2, S to. Tomas, Batangas (043) 7783534 ; Brgy. San Antonio, Sto. Tomas, Batangas (043) 7784130-31 ; Brgy. Balagtas, Batangas City (043) 7236059 ; Marauoy, Lipa City (043)7564330 BULACAN MacArthur Highway, Tuktukan, Guiguinto, Bulacan (044) 7941578 ; Doña Remedios Trinidad Highway, Baliuag, Bulacan (044) 7664528 ; Barrio Tungkong Mangga, Quirino Highway, San Jose del Monte Bulacan (044) 6913988 ; CT Center @ Km. 38 MacArthur Highway, San Pablo, Malolos City (044) 7960371 CAVITE Lalaan 2, Emilio Aguinaldo Highway, Silang, Cavite (046) 8651012 ; M8888 Bldg., Km. 24 General E. Aguinaldo Highway, Anabu II, Imus, Cavite (046) 8750834

QMARINAS REY Home Center

Per DTI NCR Permit No. 2771 Series of 2007

INQUIRER READ-ALONG PROGRAM INSPIRES

Dreams are made of stories for Baseco kids

By Kate V. Pedroso
Inquirer Research

FOR THE CHILDREN OF Baseco in Tondo, Manila, any trip outside the compound is always a welcome treat.

"We want to widen their horizons, show them the world outside," said Lala Salanga, volunteer teacher for the Edukasyon Kabalikat sa Kaunlaran (EKK) tutorial program, which augments the teaching of Baseco's elementary school students.

"We want them to dream."

It was in this mind-set that the group came to the INQUIRER office yesterday to join nearly a hundred other children for the biweekly INQUIRER Read-Along program, the sixth in the series since the sessions began in May.

Yesterday's lone storyteller was Alitaptap volunteer Rich Rodriguez, who read "Sandosenang Sapatos" and "Hipon at Biya." A crowd favorite from his first read-along session in June, Rodriguez was back for the third time.

Youngest summa cum laude

Salanga said she was inspired to bring the children to the Read-Along by Mikaela Fudolig, the youngest summa cum laude graduate of the University of the Philippines, who read "Hope for the Flowers" in a session in May.

"When I saw her, I thought maybe the kids would be inspired by her," said Salanga, who tutors around 60 children from Hermenegildo Atienza Elementary School at Baseco in English, Math and Science.

Fudolig, she said, was almost the same age as some of her students, "but they were still in fifth grade. We just wanted to get inspiration from Mikaela, who is 16 and already a college graduate."

EKK's tutorial program targets fifth and sixth graders with the main goal of improving their performance in the National Elementary Achievement Test (NEAT).

Tutorials launched

"The children in Baseco don't pass the NEAT exam; they almost always have to take remedial classes," Salanga said. "And when the family is poor, they can't afford to extend (schooling) for another year because it is expensive."

She said she had seen Grade 5 pupils unable to add or subtract.

Realizing it was not enough to cater to only Grade 5 and 6 pupils, EKK recently launched tutorials for first graders.

More possibilities

"We thought, maybe if we could do that, maybe they will be better when they get to Grade 5 and Grade 6," Salanga said.

For Georgie Tenolete, coordinator for the Kabalikat sa Pagpapaunlad ng Baseco, the group that organized the tutorial program, there ought to be a way to expose the children to more possibilities.

"Students at Baseco walk the same path to and from school. Every day, that's just what they do—home, school, home. And that is all. You don't see any big institutions around there. And that is where we come in—we work to give them something to dream about."

In the end, Salanga said the bottom line is to keep the children's passion for education alive. "All we aim for is for these children to keep wanting to finish their studies," she said. "We want to encourage them to dream and to go pursue their dreams. If you really want to finish your schooling, whether you are poor or not, you will finish it."

Love of reading

Contributors to yesterday's program included Krispy Kreme donuts and Scholastic. Storybooks from Adarna were given away at the end of the program.

The INQUIRER Read-Along program, which aims to teach love of reading to children aged seven to 13, is held on the second and fourth Saturday of the month. Next month's sessions will be on Aug. 11 and 25 with celebrity readers Maricel Laxa and Arnold Clavio, respectively. Interested parties may call Ellen Caparros or Girlie Refran at tel. 897-8808, local 329.

High performers share tips on managing hard-earned bucks

For most people, a job is just a means of earning a living. But to some high achievers, a job means so much more -- personal and professional growth and continuous learning, satisfaction and fulfilment. Exactly what Accenture, one of the leading global management consulting, technology services, and outsourcing companies, strives to provide its employees. Driven by a culture of excellence and a commitment to "high performance," Accenture makes sure the relationship is mutually satisfying for both the organization and its people.

"A career at Accenture should be satisfying as well as rewarding. Part of the satisfaction comes from doing top-quality, interesting and challenging work, and the opportunity to grow and develop as a professional. In addition, we offer competitive monetary reward packages based on employees' skills and level of responsibility," explained Dot Velasco, Country Human Resources Lead of Accenture in the Philippines.

Every year, Accenture conducts a market benchmarking study to understand trends, and reviews global strategies to design a suitable Total Rewards Strategy for its employees.

"The Total Rewards Strategy, being highly market-competitive, enables us to attract, retain and motivate the best people," Velasco added. While rewards are performance-driven, that is, measuring success through the achievement of business outcomes, compensation is delivered through a combination of base pay, variable pay and equity components, she added.

Finding fulfilment in belonging to a company that truly values its people, having a dynamic and stimulating job, and getting justly rewarded for hard work and achievement, Accenture employees also make sure that every cent of their salary counts for something. A closer look at how Accenture's employees manage their hard-earned money clearly shows that high performance extends to their personal life, including the wise management of their finances.

"Being a High Performer should manifest at work, at play and even in life's basics," volunteered Darwin Soriano, Delivery Lead for Travel & Transportation projects under Accenture Systems Integration & Technology. As any breadwinner or family member who contributes to the household budget knows, one's salary is usually eaten up by expenses for rent or property amortization, utilities, the kids' education, and other basic necessities.

While the children's education and home mortgage payments are top priorities for a family man like Darwin, single and successful Vilena Chua spends differently. Vilena, a project manager for Accenture's contact center operations in Manila, who's been with Accenture for three years, spends regularly for telephone usage, clothes, travel, dance classes, other recreational activities, and "gimmicks" with friends. Extravagant? Not quite. Mindful of the rainy days, Vilena manages to save up to 50% of her salary each month. "I have a financial goal that I try to meet every year. If I notice that I am spending more in one or two areas, I become more conscious of it and lessen my spending."

Let's hear more from these money-

continuation A11

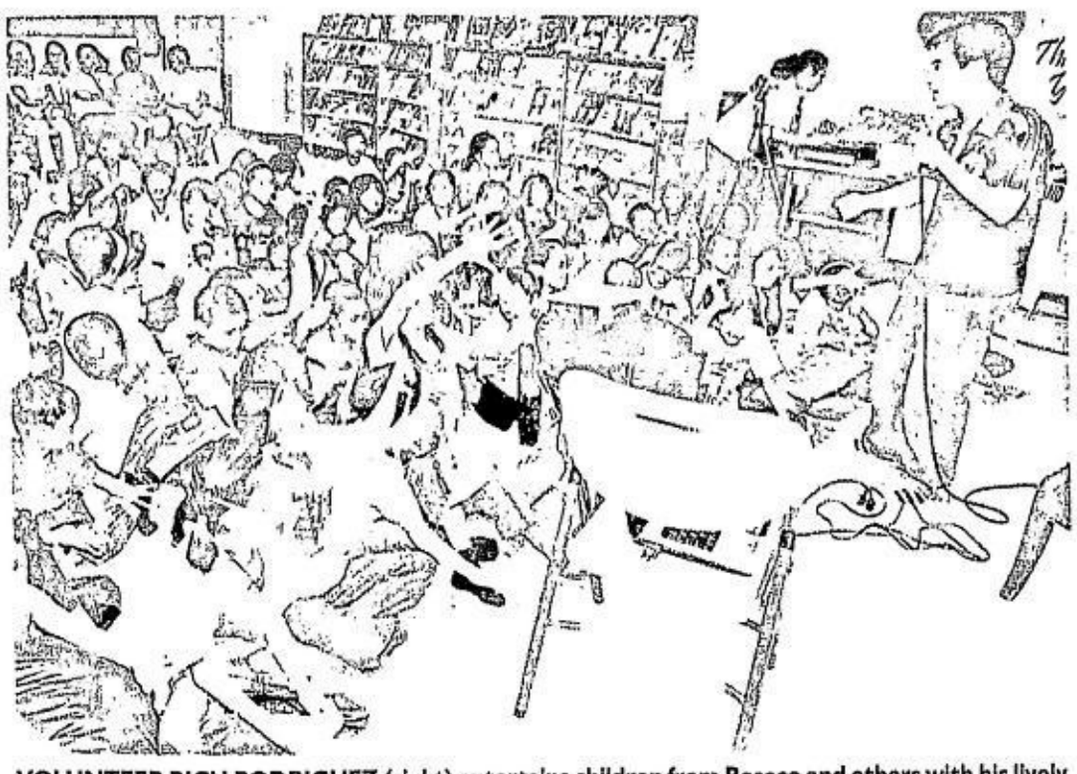
Accenture

Delivering high performance in the Philippines and around the world.

Accenture is one of the world's leading management consulting, technology services and outsourcing companies, committed to delivering innovation that helps clients become high-performance businesses. With over 158,000 people in 49 countries, few organizations are able to match our industry knowledge and process expertise, our global resources or our proven track record. That's probably why we've worked with over two thirds of the FORTUNE® Global 500.

In the Philippines we have over 12,000 professionals in the Manila Delivery Centre and operate in Makati City, Pasig City, Quezon City, Mandaluyong City, and soon in Cebu City. Leveraging their skills from these locations, we deliver technology solutions and outsourcing services to clients across a diverse range of industries in Europe, Asia and North America. This gives our employees the opportunity to do interesting work, develop new skills and work on leading edge technologies and business processes.

In an innovative and collaborative team environment which nurtures talent, encourages training, provides career growth and rewards accomplishments, our people in the Philippines focus on the delivery of transformational solutions—helping clients realize their vision and achieve high performance.



VOLUNTEER RICH RODRIGUEZ (right) entertains children from Baseco and others with his lively rendition of "Sandosenang Sapatos" and "Hipon at Biya" during the INQUIRER Read-Along session yesterday. ROGER MARGALLO

Tired of going from building to building to distribute your resumés?
We can help you!
JOB Market
DROP YOUR RESUMES OFF IN DROP BOXES AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING INQUIRER CLASSIFIED BRANCHES:
Makati (Main) Mandaluyong | Makati Branch Manila | Quezon City
Or log on to www.jobmarketonline.com

BREAKTHROUGH IN CANCER CURE!

You don't have to die of cancer, kidney diseases, stroke, congestive heart disease, parkinson syndrome, alzheimer's disease, psychiatric disorder, psoriasis, diabetes, emphysema, asthma, toxic thyroid, vertigo, apnia, dengue fever, viral encephalitis, hydrocephalus, PTB, paralysis, HIV virus, AIDS & comatose.

Try our KATONI HERBS and get instant relief right away! Katoni herbs is also a good antidote against radiation poisoning or chemical poisoning dur to over exposure to or prolong use of chemotherapy, cobalt, & radiation therapy to treat cancer diseases. Katoni herbs if simultaneously use with chemotherapy can prevent falling hair, vomiting, dizziness and at the same time accelerate healing capabilities by almost 100%.

Katoni Herbs is also a very potent anti-stress agent and a super enrgy drink for hardworking individuals.

We do home services for bedridden patients, anywhere in the Phils.
Cellphone numbers: 09209060992, 09209100806
Ask for: Sir Ton Agustin, Herbal Scientist & Inventor
Address: 229 Macopa St. Brgy. Maligaya, San Miguel, Tarlac
Metro Manila Distributor: Dra. Lisa Dilig
Cellphone number: 09272780193, Landline: (02)8732672
bostoncherbs@yahoo.com.ph

Getting satisfaction from a job well done.
Just another day at the office for a Tiger.

Join Accenture for a career that keeps you motivated and moving forward. Work on vital assignments for top class clients and help them achieve high performance. Push yourself, while developing your skills and confidence. Work with the best people worldwide to solve problems and do what hasn't been done before.

If this is your idea of a typical working day, Accenture is the place to work.

Visit www.accenture.com/philippinecareers

• Consulting • Technology • Outsourcing

accenture
High performance. Delivered.

from page A10

savvy Accenture high performers who willingly shared some very sound advice on managing one's hard-earned pesos:

1. Invest. Through Accenture's programs, Darwin and other employees have access to financial plans that help them manage their income and make every peso count. Some employees, like Vilena and Dennis Tan, Unit Lead of an outsourcing deal in the Health, Life & Sciences industry, invest their savings in the money market, equity-based and bond-based mutual funds, and time deposits. On the other hand, Amabel Gatmaitan, a Senior Manager in Accenture Business Process Outsourcing, and her husband recently partnered with a friend to franchise a convenience store. Accenture also has an Employee Share Purchase Plan (ESPP) that allows eligible employees to build equity ownership by purchasing company shares at a discount.

2. Avail of promos and benefits. Employees must take full advantage of company benefits like a car plan, medical, transportation, and other such allowances. Accenture, for example, offers an array of options for medical, dental, disability, life insurance and future savings plans. Shuttle transportation to and from different worksites, a 24x7 cafeteria, and a safe, secure and highly professional work environment, are a standard. Employees can also avail of substantial discounts on books, gym memberships and electronics. It is through such programs that Amabel is able to pre-order and get a discount on books like the popular Harry Potter series. Accenture also rewards employees regularly through programs like the Accenture Movie Nights/Days, which sponsors free showing of blockbuster movies to employees and their families.

3. Save up. While Darwin spends most of his salary on home-related expenses, he still manages to save at least 10% of his monthly pay for the rainy days. And amazingly, through financial goal-setting, Vilena is able to set aside 50% of her salary! For couples, compartmentalizing funds work best. "My husband is also working, so my salary goes into our savings, while his salary is what we use for our expenses," Amabel shared.

4. Keep a budget diary. A simple budget diary helps one to track and plan expenses. Both Darwin and Amabel use a budget diary to keep tabs of expenses and make sure they are aligned with their priorities. "Taking note of all our expenses also helps me and my husband stick to our savings commitment," Amabel added.

To top it all, here's one more tip that all working people should take to heart, coming from Accenture's Country Managing Director, Beth Lui: "Working will keep you financially independent, if you don't spend more than what you earned. Learn to save - even if it's only a small amount each paycheck. If you can pay your credit card balances and other scheduled amortization in full each month, yes, you can go out and buy your Saturday night chic outfit. If not, opt for a casual night out and relax in your best jeans."

Accenture's total rewards program, and the discipline and prudence that come with high performance, enable employees like Darwin and Vilena to manage their finances well and enjoy the finer things in life. As Vilena pointed out, "Managing my finances well gives me stability and security in my personal life. I can focus more on work because I have fewer distractions."

Job satisfaction depends on many factors--interesting and challenging work, conducive work environment, financial security, professional growth and self-development. Although the challenges are unique, a flexible, forward-thinking and progressive employer like Accenture makes sure that you enjoy a healthy work-life balance, and an outstanding benefits program that fully rewards achievement and merit.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007

ISSN 0116-2642

INQUIRER

Vol. 22 No. 231

OPINION

Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph Website: www.inquirer.net/opinion

Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.
•Subscription Hotline 896-6000

•100% soy ink•

Integration

EDITORIAL

THE DREAM OF A CONSTITUTION FOR ASEAN was formally expressed in Kuala Lumpur in 2005. It was reiterated in Cebu City last year during the Asean Summit. The idea is supposed to reach fruition by means of a final draft to be presented in Singapore later this year.

For generations, formalizing a closer relationship with our neighbors has been a Filipino aspiration. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, our revolutionary founding fathers forged friendly ties with their counterparts in the region. The 1920s saw a growing sense of solidarity between Filipino leaders and their Indonesian counterparts. By World War II, Manuel Quezon was proposing union with Indonesia as a postwar objective, and by the administration of Diosdado Macapagal, this pan-Malay feeling had found a formal expression in the Maphilindo.

By 1967, Asean had been formed, expanding what up to then had been pan-Malayan Filipino sentiments to a growing appreciation of a Southeast Asian identity. The spread of democracy in the region—allowing the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia, for example, to lockstep for nearly the first time, as democratic countries—has done much to soothe international jealousies, and to push toward a substantive, and not merely symbolic, Asean system.

A growing desire to collaborate economically, among Asean member-states, too, has pushed forward the idea of a regional constitution, in many ways, on the model of the European Union.

The process isn't easy. The European Union's efforts to draft a constitution revealed that drafting a regional charter is an often frustrating effort. But the European Union, born of the European Economic Community (EEC), has demonstrated the economic benefits member-states can derive from a closer integration of their rules, and the adoption of policies favorable to the populations of its members. Not to mention the advantages gained from lobbying as a bloc.

The vision for an Asean Constitution is fundamentally, an economic one: the creation of an Asean Economic Community by the year 2020. By then, as Asean itself has expressed it, our region will hopefully be characterized by "a free flow of goods, services, investment and a freer flow of capital, equitable economic development and reduced poverty and socio-economic disparities."

It may be easier to achieve consensus on economic rules and regulations but an Asean Constitution will have to be about more than economic matters. It is an encouraging sign, for example, that two countries that traditionally have had warm feelings for each other (the Philippines and Indonesia) and another country, Singapore, with which Filipinos have often differed in terms of political values, have come together to push for the creation of an Asean human rights body under a regional charter.

This has put the charter-drafting process at odds with the government of Burma. Filipinos have also not only felt, but expressed, a sense of solidarity with the Burmese people over their thwarted democracy movement. This has placed Filipinos at odds with our own government's policy concerning Burma, and pressured the Philippines to maintain the democratic line together with other concerned countries.

That being the case, we believe that it's important, at this point, to support efforts to establish a regional human rights body under the auspices of Asean. Philippine NGOs can make common cause with their counterparts in the region, particularly in Indonesia and Cambodia, to continue lobbying our governments to support the idea. It will help our diplomats, who are engaged in the consensus-building process required to produce a charter draft, if they know they have public support for the inclusion of a human rights body in the Asean charter.

If Asean envisions an Asean Economic Community by 2020, it also looks forward to establishing an Asean Socio-Cultural Community by the same year. It is supposed to be "a community of caring societies and founded on a common regional identity." A strong aspect of that identity must be that our region represents a strong constituency for the protection of human rights.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor in Chief LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Managing Editor JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Associate Editor ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor for Readership ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
News Editor ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR. • *Chief, News Day Desk* NILO B. PAUROM
Opinion Editor JORGE V. ARUTA
National Editor PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
Senior Desk Editor JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR.
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DORONILA
Chief Photographer ERNIE U. SARMIENTO
Art & Design Director LYNETT A. VILLARIBA

Board Chairman MARIXI R. PRIETO
President ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing RENATO R. REINOSO
VP for Advertising FELIPE R. OLARTE
AVP for Circulation SANDY SIMON R. YAP

Readers' Advocate LORNA KALAW TIROL
readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph • Tel. No. 897-8808, Loc. 342

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

The 2007 Sona

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I MUST BE THE ONLY COLUMNIST WHO HAS not written anything about the State of the Nation Address of President Macapagal-Arroyo last Monday. My reason was simple: I did not watch her on TV or listen to the radio to hear her deliver that hour-long drivel. And my reason was simple too: that hogwash did not deserve the interest of this humble citizen of our bumbling Republic.

It is true that freedom of expression includes the right to be heard in the sense that the State cannot prohibit the people from hearing what a person has to say, whatever the quality of his thoughts. But this right is not demandable against those unwilling to listen who may not be herded by the government into a captive audience.

This means that the right to listen includes the right not to listen. As Socrates said, this freedom was meant not only to protect the minority who want to talk but also to benefit the majority who refuse to listen.

And I refused to listen to what I could reasonably expect to be another delusion offered by an expert deceiver as proved by the previous utterances she has made with histrionic sincerity. She is the leader who pledged on several occasions, including the one before the Rizal monument at the Luneta, that she would not run for president in 2004 but did. She has also called for the nation to move on instead of discovering the truth about the Garci tapes and her suspicious involvement in that scandal.

The newspapers, as reporters of events of public concern, dutifully described the happenings on July 23, the fourth Monday of the month for the opening of the regular session of Congress. It was on that day that President Arroyo was to deliver her Sona. The audience came as in an expensive fashion show, with the male solons in costly barongs and the ladies in frippery costumes that must have cost thousands of pesos per vanity.

Outside, the masses were rallying against the administration. Many of them were from the abject poor living on a hand-to-mouth existence removed from the splendors of the rich. And they were all waiting, the destitute in hopes and the over-abundant in wealth, for the performance of the hour by the Nora Aunor of Malacañang.

As a responsible broadsheet, the INQUIRER carried reports and pictures of that gala event. Its headlines for two successive days were "GMA: Don't count me out" and "Villar: GMA a lame duck." And there were enough pictures in the inside pages featuring the celebrities in their costly attire who had come to be seen and not necessarily to listen to the Sona.

The columnists, true to the mission of their calling, seriously analyzed the speech of the President and, as might be expected, most of them had a somber view of the state of the nation as Ms Gloria effusively described it under her leadership. As also expected, a few were laudatory. In any case, it was clear that they had patiently sat through the tiresome address so they could later write about it—or against it—as responsible opinion-makers.

I did not make a similar decision. Instead I continued reading Gabriel Garcia Marquez's "Living to Tell the Tale," that was more interesting and I considered to be more honest. I learned later that Jose de Venecia had been elected speaker again for a fifth time with his arch rival Rep. Pablo Garcia not joining in the contest. In the Senate, Villar was elected president, but the chairmanship of the blue ribbon committee had yet to be resolved.

The INQUIRER columnists have a wide choice of topics to write about without dictation or censorship from our editors. We may even write against their views, incurring their displeasure but not their resentment. In fact, they can also write against us in their editorials which we may answer in our columns, as I have done. What is sauce for the goose is also sauce for the gander.

And so I have not written about the Sona as my colleagues have done with expert analytical critique, mostly adverse, except for some unwelcome hallelujahs. My realistic view was that the President's Sona did not merit the many words and hours wasted to examine and declare it for what it was as another humbug from the President of the Philippines. It was as pretentious as her official title.

For whatever it may be worth, let me offer the suggestion that there are certain topics that may be of public curiosity but nevertheless should not be given increased notoriety in the media. I have in mind the unhealthy hoopla that the American media, particularly television and the newspapers, recently gave to the death of a vulgar stripper, whose neighbors in her hometown said they did not want their place to be remembered for her.

In our country, I am bothered by the attention given some public if hardly admired figures like Imelda Marcos and Jose Ma. Sison who in my humble view are better forgotten instead of being given undue publicity in lieu of the dismissive unconcern they deserve. I make the same observation about President Gloria M. Arroyo's undistinguished and best ignored Sona.

Mon(k)ey business

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A NURSE WHO, upon coming out of the delivery room, motioned to an expectant father and declared, "You have a son!" Another man jumped up and cried, "Say, what's the big idea? I was here before he was!"

* * *

In today's Gospel (Lk. 11, 1-13) Jesus teaches us that we have a generous and giving Father. In contrast, we His children are selfish, proud and stingy toward each other. It's time for us to reflect once more on the saying "Like father, like son/daughter." Are you generous like the Father?

* * *

Outside my room is a cage with a male and a female monkey. I give them food and water every day. They grab them fast, and these ingrates even jeer at me while they hastily stuff all that food in their mouth. Worse, they even grab the food from each other. It's a sad sight, but then, they are monkeys. It must be very disappointing for the Father whenever He sees us His children acting like monkeys, so ungrateful and so greedy toward each other.

* * *

Last year, as nature would have it, an offspring was born out of this "cagelock." The mother was very caring and protective of its little one. But the male monkey remained the same selfish male chauvinist monkey that he was. Sad to see that he who is the strongest oppresses and even harms the weak and the defenseless. Isn't this what's happening in the world and in our country right now? They who are supposed to protect us, "project" us. They who are supposed to love us, "rob" us. They who are supposed to lead us, bleed us.

* * *

As nature would have it again, another offspring was born this year. Again I saw a caring, protective mother. The male monkey? The same—selfish and domineering. But what warms my heart these days is the sight of the older offspring cuddling and taking care of the little one. What a sight! What a joy to see! What a joy it must be for the Father in heaven to see His children loving and caring for each other.

* * *

Last weekend, I was in beautiful Palau, "the country at the rainbow's end." This young republic is endowed with beautiful nature, and a people that really takes care of its environment. Marine life abounds, and one literally can swim with the fishes which are aplenty. Yes, God is generous, but we His children must learn not to be covetous. There's plenty for everybody, if only we know how to share our bounty.

* * *

There are about 5,000 overseas Filipino workers in that little island. In the Masses we celebrated, we experienced a community in diaspora that experiences joys, pains, loneliness, division and persecution, but remains strong and vibrant in faith. While the OFWs keep our economy afloat, one can't help but wish and pray that someday soon, no Filipino will have to leave home and country just to find work. You know why our people have to endure many untold hardships in foreign lands? That's because in our government there are many monkeys involved in, what else? Mon(k)ey business!

* * *

While it is true that there are many monkey public servants, there are also a lot of good, ordinary people in our midst. Take Judge Josephus Asis (Branch 40, Quezon City) whom I visited in his Project 2 house recently. He should be charged with "unexplained poverty." This ex-SVD seminarian (XVD) has remained humble, honest and unstained, going to work by public transport, living a simple lifestyle. No mon(k)ey business for this government official!

* * *

And not all businessmen are greedy monkeys. Elmo and Sonie de la Cruz of Foodbev International Services started their small business in the 1980s. Because of hard work, their business became successful; but because of prayer, their business has become meaningful. Theirs is a story of finding God and enthroning God in the marketplace, making daily prayer a part of their company, and Bible study part of every Saturday. As Sonie put it, "God will provide, but we must cooperate and abide." To those who are blessed with so much, please don't forget to "unload." Stop saying "It's money-time," and start saying "It's payback-time."

* * *

By the way, today is Fil-mission Sunday. Let us pray and support our Filipino and Filipina missionaries "out there" who have left home, country and family, braving deprivation, loneliness and even persecutions for the sake of the Gospel. What a big help they are too to our OFWs. An OFW, in his/her loneliness, can either turn to God or to vices. Thank God for people, missionaries and laity who remind them that wherever they are, God is there.

* * *

Requesting for prayers and help to find Eliseo "Ely" Cadivin, 34 years old, second year Theologian in Divine Word Seminary, Tagaytay City. He has been missing since July 23. He was last seen at the Tagaytay Rotunda after he picked up a money transfer. For any information please call 7265002 or 0920-9475791.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me not to be ungrateful, selfish and greedy like a monkey. Amen.

Legal empowerment of the poor

WITH DUE RESPECT

Artemio V. Panganiban

JOSE CRUZ (NOT HIS REAL NAME), A LAD BARELY in his teens, wakes up at four o'clock every morning to be able to catch the early delivery of the newspapers he peddles to motorists at a busy intersection in Makati.

Poverty and powerlessness. Normally, he finishes selling at 7:30 a.m., walks back to his family's all-purpose shanty along the "riles" in the South Super Highway, enjoys his breakfast of boiled rice mixed with condensed milk, and then joins his partly paralyzed mother in watching over their makeshift "sari-sari" store. Making a living takes up all his time, with none left for schooling, or learning a trade, or developing a skill to improve his future.

Having migrated from Sorsogon several years ago in search of opportunities better than the P50 his half-paralyzed mother earned as a farm hand in an almost abandoned coconut plantation, Jose ended up as an "informal settler" (OK, a squatter). He and his two younger sisters have no birth certificates, because their mother was too embarrassed to admit that they were born of an itinerant father who was married to someone else. Neither did they have any legal residence, nor title to their minute shack cum stall, nor medical attendance for their recurring body sores.

Many times in the past, policemen and thugs had raided their squatter settlement in search of illegal drugs, or alleged robbery suspects. At some other times, government agents had demolished their squalid hutch, because they had to be vanished from the view of some visiting foreign VIPs who were scheduled to pass the highway.

The poverty and powerlessness of Jose make the Bill of Rights an empty rhetoric, because he has no access to effective legal protection, to the social security system, and to integration into the economy. He is just a hairline away from a life of crime and violence; and his sisters, from prostitution and vagrancy, none of which is palatable to him or to the nation.

Conference on legal exclusion. To instill hope to the hopeless like Jose Cruz, the Economic Social and Cultural Rights–Asia Inc. (ESCR), in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the UN-affiliated Commission on Legal Empowerment for the Poor, sponsored last July 25-26 a national policy conference on the "nature, dimensions and extent of the legal exclusion of the poor."

The 200 or so participants discussed how the poorest of the poor can be "legally empowered"; that is, how they can be made to "overcome the constraints that prevent them from accessing the legal system, and allow them to gain more control over their lives..."

When violations of rights are committed, most lawyers would invoke the "rule of law" to protect the victims. Ordinary or "orthodox" rule of law implies the use of ideas, institutions (especially the courts), officials (like lawyers and prosecutors), and strategies that are alien to the day-to-day existence of the very poor. Laws are enacted without consulting them; in any event, laws are too complicated for their unschooled understanding. Further, they do not know how to avail of their protection; lawyers' fees and docket costs are beyond their means.

Understandably, the overriding concern of Jose is his family's meal for today, not the cases he could bring tomorrow to redress the illegal demolition of their miniscule stall yesterday. And even if he had the luxury to think about vindication, his abject poverty legally disadvantages him in many ways: (1) he lacks legal status (he is a minor) and residence; (2) their mini-store is not registered and thus has no permit; and (3) he does not know of any lawyer who would waste time to protect their insignificant livelihood.

Essential to liberty and prosperity. But society has a big stake in Jose and his sisters, not only to protect their constitutional rights but also to prevent them from becoming more dangerous risks, from degenerating as the legally excluded poor to being socially condemned criminals. On the other hand, orthodox rule of law cannot adequately help them because of their legal exclusion.

To snatch Jose and his brood from hopelessness, they need legal empowerment, not just the rule of law; they deserve social justice, not just empty legalisms. To propel them to the social mainstream, they have to be understood in their circumstance of total helplessness.

In this context, I believe the ESCR-UNDP-Legal Empowerment confab deserves as much attention as the State of the Nation Address of the President and the National Consultative Summit on Extra-Judicial Killings of the Supreme Court.

As a jurist, I have always thought that the rule of law was sufficient to guarantee my twin vision of safeguarding liberty and nurturing prosperity. However, this conference has convinced me that the fulfillment of this beacon of **liberty and prosperity for all** requires not just the rule of law but also the legal empowerment of the poor.

For this awakening, I am sincerely grateful to ESCR chair Glenda T. Litong and ESCR executive director Resurreccion Lao, who invited me to preside over "session one" of the conference, and to Dr. Naresh Singh of the Commission on Legal Empowerment, who flew in from his headquarters in New York to be able to help in formulating means and measures to legally empower the Filipino poor. Significantly, the commission is co-chaired by former US Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright and acclaimed Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto.

* * *

Comments are welcome at chiefjusticepanganiban@hotmail.com

A celebration

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

"TONIGHT IS A CELEBRATION OF LIFE AND music," declared the artists performing at the "Break the Silence: Aid for AIDS" benefit concert. Though they had come together in a one-night performance of songs, mostly from Broadway musicales, to raise funds for the Remedios AIDS Foundation, they apparently wanted the audience to remember not the millions of deaths, the neglect of people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS, or even the waning interest in this global pandemic. Rather, the focus of the song choices was on love—and loss—and on celebration and telling stories.

Jake Macapagal, one of the headliners of the concert, confessed at show's end how deeply emotional he felt that after months of conceptualizing the show and talking to fellow theater artists, "this concert has finally come true." For the record, all of those who performed at the show did so for free, volunteering their awesome talents and time for rehearsals and the performance itself, all in a desire to "break the silence" that has descended once more on HIV and AIDS, after more than a decade of fevered media coverage and attempts at "outing" people who had tested positive.

Tellingly, everyone entering the Romulo Theatre at the RCBC complex was given a red ribbon to pin on their clothes, reviving memories of the 1990s when everyone at public gatherings—including Hollywood's "night of nights," the Academy Awards—wore a red ribbon to signify solidarity with people living with HIV/AIDS. These days, people wear ribbons of different colors: pink for breast cancer, white for peace, green for the environment, yellow for testicular cancer (or is it just confined to the Lance Armstrong bracelets?). Not that there's anything wrong with advocating for a rainbow of causes—there are so many problems in this world, and people's memories are too short and their hearts too shallow—but sometimes, too many symbols can make the whole exercise of advocacy meaningless.

* * *

ANYWAY, there were worlds of meaning in that night's songs, and rich proof of the wealth of talent in this country. A few of the names and faces among the cast were familiar; but for the most part, the performers toiled in the choruses and minor leads of local stage productions. But if you had watched and listened to them Wednesday night, you would think everyone was a headliner (and deserves to be so), so confident was their performance, so ebullient their spirit and most of them so painfully young!

And to think the artists had little to distract the audience with, no elaborate sets, no colorful costumes, no complicated lights, no lively choreography, not even sweeping music. Just a single set, street clothes for costumes and excellent piano accompaniment by C.J. Javier.

Among the better known solo performers were Jeremy Aguado, Raul Montesa, Eladio Pamaran (who is based in Germany), Crisel Consunji, Karla Guevarra La Forteza (who sang a most touching and heart-wrenching song "Tell Me on a Sunday" from a Lloyd-Webber musical), Robbie Guevarra, Joshua Tiu and Macapagal.

The Repertory Philippines Show Stoppers, a group of six young talents, performed a medley from "Les Misérables," as well as a medley of Filipino love songs, from pop classics to current hits. Take a bow, Caisa Borromeo, Topper Fabregas, Jaime Barcelon, Felix Rivera, Cara Barredo and Fame Flores.

* * *

WHEN the entire cast assembled on stage and Javier opened with the opening strains of "A Thousand Sweet Kisses" from "Rent," one knew the concert was at an end. More so when everybody segued into "Seasons of Love," the anthem not just of the HIV/AIDS community, but of every assemblage of folks bidding farewell to friends and loved ones, as well as celebrating—love, life, friendship, family.

The song is both fiercely optimistic, but also poignant, and perhaps that's why the show's organizers didn't want to end on that note. Everyone then moved on to "Why We Tell the Story," the closing number of "Once on This Island."

After everyone had been acknowledged, Maynard Peñalosa who, with his wife Joyce, heads Thinking Cap, an events company which had conceptualized the concert and put it together, was called on stage. Requested for a song, Maynard took his seat at the piano and launched into "Hindi Kita Malilimutan," his homage and the performers' vow to the community "that we will always be there for you and will never forget you."

And I thought: the red ribbon still stands for something, after all.

* * *

IN A COLUMN he writes for another paper, RAF board president Bong Austero said that when the folks at Thinking Cap first began working on "Break the Silence" concert, they were highly optimistic, thinking an issue like HIV/AIDS would have a ready "market," and thus many willing sponsors. But in the course of talking to prospective sponsors, they and other board members slammed against the old, familiar brick wall of silence and shame.

While marketers and corporations seem to have no problem sponsoring causes as diverse as beauty contests, bikini competitions, beach sports and pop music, they seem to be frightened off by something as "controversial" as a disease that has killed 14 million people worldwide.

So let me add here my own personal thanks to friends who responded, with alacrity and enthusiasm, to my text messages asking for their support for Remedios and for the community, by buying tickets for the concert. Whether you showed up that night (and I do apologize if you were there and I failed to greet you) or not, you have already shown that you, too, want to break the silence around HIV/AIDS and wish to celebrate, as well, love, life and music.

Uniting Asia

WORLD VIEW

Fidel V. Ramos

NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR AMBITIONS SEEM to have died down, at least for now. The Six-Party Talks have, at long last, succeeded—thanks, apparently, to China's solid opposition to the nuclearization of Northeast Asia. Under the aegis of the Six-Party umbrella, the United States and North Korea have even held the bilateral talks that North Korea's Kim Jong-il has long coveted.

So, for now, Northeast Asia is temporarily calmer and less unstable than it has been for almost two decades. Yet it remains a potential flashpoint.

During this time of tension, an increasingly self-confident South Korea began to chart a course independent of its American patron. In November 2005, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) accused the South Korean government of having enriched a tiny amount of uranium—to a level close to what could be used in an atomic weapon. The government denied this, claiming that the experiments were conducted by academic researchers "for scientific interest," without its knowledge.

South Korea's evolving foreign policy may also involve moving closer to China, as Korean nationalists join the Chinese in resisting Japan's rival claims to potential hydrocarbon deposits in the East China Sea and the Sea of Japan. New generations of South Koreans, who have no personal recollections of—and perhaps only casual interest in—the Korean War, apparently resent what they regard as America's undermining of South Korea's "sunshine policy" toward North Korea.

For Japan, North Korea's missile capability is the most immediate concern. A sweeping defense review that Japan recently carried out reaffirms that it will continue to oppose its immediate neighbors' possession of nuclear arms. Of course, Japan itself already possesses both nuclear technology and solid-fuel missiles. But the core of Japan's defense strategy remains its strong ties with the United States, not military self-sufficiency.

All in all, the calmer situation in Northeast Asia might seem to be a fragile basis for creating long-term peace and prosperity in the region. But the basic lesson from Western Europe, whose greatest powers, France and Germany, fought three great wars in 70 years, is that the only lasting solution to conflict is to embed neighboring countries in dense networks of economic, political and security relationships, and in regional institutions that serve their mutual interests.

Of course, the creators of today's united Europe did not start by calling for national sovereignty to be abrogated. Indeed, Robert Schuman once declared that "Europe will not be built in a day, nor as part of an overall design. It will be built through the practical achievements that first create a sense of common purpose."

Accordingly, what became the European Union started inconspicuously, with the integration of French and German industries that had been most directly associated with war production—coal and steel. Only after economic integration had progressed did the first serious efforts at political integration take place.

In today's East Asia, too, the market is fostering integration. Now that the 10 Southeast Asian states have been gathered into Asean—and are promulgating an Asean Charter—the concept of an East Asian Economic Grouping (EAEG) that would incorporate Asean and China, Japan and (a presumably unified and nuclear-free) Korea is moving forward steadily.

The initial phase of this grand ambition, a free-trade area (FTA) between Asean and China, began in 2004 and should be completed by 2010. Concurrently, an FTA comprising Asean, Japan, and also South Korea is being negotiated. Since 2005, India, too, has expressed interest in such an arrangement with Asean-10.

But northeast Asia, alone among the Asian regions, has no regional organization. This is why it needs a concert of powers to sustain its fragile stability. North and South Korea must begin the work of reconciliation and community-building on their own initiative, as France and Germany did in 1952. Economics must once again outflank politics, with trade, investment, tourism and technology transfer intensifying across the 38th Parallel.

Meanwhile, the instruments for a larger Asia-Pacific economic community are already in place, starting with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) forum, with the ultimate goal being to meet the imperative for durable peace and security. Over the next decade, our statesmen must replace the Pax Americana that has enforced stability in the Asia-Pacific region with a Pax Asia-Pacifica, in which the major countries and sub-regional blocs contribute to and share in the maintenance of Asia-Pacific security in the face of our common geopolitical threats. These include international terrorism, nuclear proliferation, the instability arising out of the Arab-Israel conflict and the Iraq war, and the weakness of the United Nations.

As regional neighbors and partners, we should exploit the convergence of interests that the United States, Japan, China, India, Russia, Asean, Canada, a unified, nuclear weapon-free Korea, Pakistan, Australia, New Zealand and others share—just as Western Europe exploited the Cold War stalemate between the United States and the Soviet Union to consolidate and expand the European Union.

America's overstretched military provides the irrefutable rationale for a deep restructuring of Asia-Pacific security. But trans-Pacific peace must be based on a balance not of power but of mutual benefit. Clearly, this will involve burden-sharing by all nations in the Asia-Pacific region, and a cooperative understanding among the most affluent and powerful countries in our part of the world—the United States, Japan, China and South Korea. *Project Syndicate*

Fidel V. Ramos is a former president of the Philippines.

3 women's stories

COMMENTARY

Isabel T. Escoda

THIS IS A NARRATIVE OF THREE FILIPINO WOMEN IN Hong Kong. Having known them for some time, I've learned their stories by following the trajectory of their lives over the years. All three initially arrived in the territory to work as domestics. The longer they stayed, the more problems they seemed to encounter—some of which they have sometimes been able to control, in one way or another. All three, however, sadly are on the brink of being losers.

Lulu, Carmen and Minda (not their real names) live, like myself, on one of the territory's outlying islands, a community populated by lower- and middle-class Chinese and a growing number of *gweilos* (the Cantonese term, meaning foreign ghost, used for Westerners and other non-Chinese). A former fishing and farming village, the town has been transformed into a residential suburb of Hong Kong proper, 30 minutes away by ferry, or an hour by bus over a mountain to the airport, and a mass transit station.

The three Pinays started out working for Chinese families in Kowloon. On her days off, Lulu would haunt a bar in the Wanchai district, popular with footloose western men of all ages seeking pliant Asian women. The men know that most of the women (mainly Filipinas, and sometimes Thai) patronize the place in search of possible husbands or partners, preferably solvent ones. And as expected, the men engage in the age-old game of enticing the girls by promising marriage in exchange for sex.

Lulu's story is the clichéd one involving an elderly Westerner propositioning an impoverished Asian woman. Most of these men have usually had wives of their own race and sometimes grownup children, too. Lulu would go, dressed to the nines, to the Wanchai bar; and soon she caught the eye of an Australian named Ian. Their regular meetings on Sundays resulted in her pregnancy. Luckily for her, Ian was an honorable man of some means, so she happily gave up her life of drudgery with the Chinese family and settled with him in a flat on the outlying island.

When her baby was born, Lulu, being close to 50, said she needed help. So Ian agreed to sponsor her daughter Maris who arrived to help out. (He hadn't been told that Maris was herself pregnant by a boyfriend in Masbate, and soon her own baby was born in a public Hong Kong hospital). Then Lulu told Ian the sad story of her teenage son who was involved with drug gangs in Batangas. So Ian sponsored him too and tried to find him work as a waiter, but he turned out to be a manic-depressive who spends his time hanging out with the neighborhood Filipinos, singing karaoke and waxing nostalgic about cockfighting.

Today Ian, who's slowly going blind with mascular degeneration, has apparently grown exasperated at having to support his partner's feckless clan. He wants to build a house to retire in Lulu's hometown in Masbate, but she prefers to live in Hong Kong with its amenities. How the plot of that story develops is unclear.

Carmen is a pretty 30-year-old Cebuana who, after meeting her young Lothario at a singles club, began living with him, coincidentally in Lulu's neighborhood. Roger doesn't earn much teaching English, which means Carmen has to do part-time domestic jobs. She has accompanied him on holidays to Scotland and met his parents, who have welcomed her and hinted at wanting to have grandchildren. He has proposed marriage, but she says he has a bad temper and treats her like a slave, not a lover. However, she continues living with him as he sponsors her visa which allows her to remain in the territory.

Meanwhile, she's been corresponding by e-mail with a man in England and another in France. The Briton is elderly and wealthy, often sending her checks during Christmas. The other is fiftyish and not too solvent, so she's torn about which one to encourage. She phones and e-mails them when Roger is out teaching. This autumn she plans to accompany Roger on his usual Scottish holiday and then stay behind when he returns to Hong Kong so she can have a tryst with the elderly Brit (telling Roger she'll be visiting a cousin in London), and later meet the Frenchman who promised to send her a ticket to Paris.

Her future may be a rocky one since, with her state of mind, chances are she'll end up regretting whichever decision she makes. But she says she has a supportive family in Cebu to which she can return, and she can take a caregiver's course so as to apply for work at an old folks' home in Canada later.

Minda's story is almost as convoluted. She met George, an old British engineer at another Wanchai bar, told him of her bad treatment by her Chinese employers and got him to sign her employment papers—in exchange for sexual favors. He set her up at a small flat (coincidentally near Lulu and Carmen) and agreed to pay her rent. But he stipulated that she'd have to work for her other expenses. She once asked him for money for her ailing daughter in Manila, but George said no dice. Eventually he moved to Bahrain, visiting Minda (who worries that, being over 40, she's no longer desirable) only occasionally, during his holidays.

Recently George told her he'd been laid off, having turned 65, and was going to job hunt in Qatar. He informed her he could no longer pay for her rent. Minda isn't too crushed, having heard from a friend in Dubai about waitressing jobs available at the big hotels there, so she plans to head for that mega-rich Arab enclave.

These women's lives are probably replicated among many other female OFWs around the globe. Their stories are testimony to the guts and cunning they possess and the luck they encounter in their struggle to survive in this tough world.

Isabel T. Escoda has written about Filipinos in Hong Kong in her books, "Letters from Hong Kong," "Hong Kong Postscript" and "Pinoy Abroad," her latest.

THEY SAID

Brutal process

"I was bullied and tormented during the sessions and all the corrupt employees in the immigration bureau had a field day slinging mud at me, with the malicious encouragement of the arrogant senators and congressmen who wanted to take me down a peg or two... It was a brutal process."

—Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago, on the time she was harassed by Commission on Appointments members when she was up for confirmation as immigration commissioner during the Aquino administration

The INQUIRER is a member of the

PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE

The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

HUMAN SECURITY ACT

Antiterror council rebuts FLAG claims

TWO SUNDAYS AGO WHEN THE HUMAN SECURITY ACT (HSA) TOOK EFFECT, we ran the FAQs (frequently asked questions) on the antiterror law that the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG) had prepared. The lawyers' group claims that the HSA is so vague that it can be used against anyone, that it is so sweeping that it can be used to curtail the rights of persons merely suspected of terrorism, and that it is dangerous that, unless repealed, it will destroy the Bill of Rights of the Constitution.

In the interest of fair play, we are featuring the side of the Anti-Terrorism Council, the group tasked with implementing the HSA, or Republic Act No. 9372. The Council, through its spokesperson, Ricardo Blancaflor, rebuts the claims of FLAG.

The ATC reply also counters some of the arguments of the groups, which have petitioned the Supreme Court to nullify the controversial law. The petitioners claim that the antiterror law is unconstitutional, violates human rights and has a flawed definition of terrorism. They also fear that the law would be used to crack down on political enemies of the Arroyo administration.

By Ricardo R. Blancaflor
Defense undersecretary and spokesperson of the Anti-Terrorism Council

THE HUMAN SECURITY ACT IS PROBABLY THE MOST PUBlicly dissected law that Congress has ever passed in recent history. Many sectors of the civil society are wailing and whining for unwarranted reasons, from the fastidious members of the academic community who dissect the law based on fears and presumption of the law's potential to trample upon human rights, to the militant Left, which believes that the law is out to curtail the democratic space.

The rumors surrounding the law are even more popular than the intent and content of the law. From being alleged as an accommodation of the US government's demand for an antiterrorism law so grants of all sorts are extended to the Philippine government, to one as absurd as accusing the government of state-sponsored terrorism by passing an antiterrorism law. There seems to be no end to the creativity and absurdity of these allegations.

Needless to say, the only things more notorious than the law itself are the creative speculations on how the law may be abused and misused even if it has yet to be tested.

Nonetheless, the rumors are not all bad because they give the government the opportunity to discuss the intent and content of the law, and to assuage the fears on the potential of the law to abuse human rights.

1. FLAG statement: *"The Human Security Act (HSA) is one of the most incoherent, disorganized and disjointed laws our Congress has ever passed. A mix-and-match collection of 62 sections, the law has no discernible structure..."*

The HSA is a straightforward and structurally organized law. It begins with the title, followed by the declaration of policy, then the definitions of the act of terrorism and conspiracy to commit terrorism. Next come the provisions that punish accomplices and accessories to terrorism and conspiracy to commit terrorism. The next 10 sections deal with the procedure regarding surveillance of suspects, including penalties to be imposed for violation of the procedure. The eight sections governing the procedure for warrantless arrests and the rights of detainees, including the penalties for violating the same, are also grouped together.

The 17 sections dealing with the procedures in examining and freezing of accounts and the penalties for any violation thereof are also grouped together and numbered consecutively. Other provisions such as the creation of institutions responsible for the monitoring and implementation of this law such as the Anti-Terrorism Council and the Grievance Committee and the section delineating the role of the Commission on Human Rights are also grouped together.

The proponents of the law took 11 years, 1 month and one day to propose, negotiate and consolidate the contents of the law. In the 13th Congress alone, the House of Representatives conducted at least 10 committee hearings and.11 technical working group meetings. The Senate, for its part, conducted at least three committee hearings and eight technical working group meetings.

After 11 years of scrutiny, allegations that the law is incoherent, disorganized and disjointed persist not because this is what critics actually see, but because this is what they want to see.

If there are areas that need to be amended, and there are many, the government is adamant in pursuing another round of uphill legislative battle to have these improved. Until then, let us use the law to fight terrorism and terrorists.

2. FLAG statement: *"Worse, the HSA is a dangerous law. It authorizes preventive detention, expands the power of warrantless arrest, and allows for unchecked invasion of our privacy, liberty and other basic rights... They may be placed under house arrest, prohibited from using their cell phones, computers and any other means of communication, even when they are granted bail on the grounds that evidence of guilt is not strong."*

Preventive detention has always been authorized by our laws. The Revised Penal Code, enacted in 1930, allows preventive suspension for 36 hours before the suspect is delivered to the proper judicial authorities. The HSA is even more protective of the rights of detainees such that Section 18 thereof (Period of Detention Without Judicial Warrant of Arrest) requires that "The police or law enforcement personnel concerned shall, before detaining the person suspected of the crime of terrorism, present him or her before any judge at the latter's residence or office nearest the place where the arrest took place at any time of the day or night ... Immediately after taking custody of a person charged with or suspected of the crime of terrorism or conspiracy to commit terrorism, the police or law enforcement personnel shall notify in writing the judge of the court nearest the place of apprehension or arrest..."

Invasion of privacy is allowed under the 1987 Constitution "upon lawful order of the court, or when public safety or order requires otherwise as prescribed by law." Even Republic Act No. 4200 or the Anti-Wire Tapping Law, enacted in 1965, allows wiretapping in connection with certain crimes. While RA No. 4200 allows wiretapping upon the orders of any Regional Trial Court, the HSA requires a special division of the Court of Appeals to issue such order. For 42 years, the nation has accepted the Anti-Wire Tapping Law quietly. Why the fuss now, when in fact, under the HSA, the implementation of the law is much more stringent.

The Constitution also allows the right to travel to be impaired "in the interest of national security, public safety, or public health, as may be provided by law." Confining an accused to his own home while his case is pending trial is an adequate balance between the protection of national security and the rights of the accused, when evidence of guilt is not strong as determined during the bail hearing stage of the trial, considering the havoc that the accused might cause on the innocent public if he is indeed a terrorist. The use of cell phones ranges from communication to detonation of improvised explosive device. As such, the latter use must be reconsidered at this point.

3. FLAG statement: *The law's definition of terrorism is vague, ambiguous and highly susceptible to abuse. When does a condition of "widespread and extraordinary fear and panic" exist? Does the "populace" refer to the public in general, those who live in the same city or town or those who live in the same barangay? What is an "unlawful demand?"*

The definition of terrorism in the HSA conforms with the universally recognized definition in UN Resolution 1566 of 2004. It states that "criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act, and all other acts which constitute offenses within the scope of and as defined in the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, are under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature, and calls upon all States to prevent such acts and, if not prevented, to ensure that such acts are punished by penalties consistent with their grave nature"

The definition of offenses and their elements must be broad enough to cover as much as possible every conceivable act relating to terrorism but at the same time restricted so as not to overstep into the bounds of protected freedoms. Public safety requires extrapolations about future threats on the basis of disputable facts about the present.

Furthermore, Resolution 59/26P of the Convention of the Organization of the Islamic Conference provides that "'Terrorism' means any act of violence or threat thereof notwithstanding its motives or intentions perpetrated to carry out an individual or collective criminal plan with the aim of terrorizing people or threatening to harm them or imperiling their lives, honor, freedoms, security or rights or exposing the environment or any facility or public or private property to hazards or occupying or seizing them, or endangering a national resource, or international facilities, or threatening the stability, territorial integrity, political unity or sovereignty of independent States."

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES/PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

As for the element of "unlawful demand," Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. gave an example, to wit: "Release all convicted criminals." He also stated "the act of coercing the government to give in to an unlawful demand can be classified as grave coercion ... That is under the Revised Penal Code."

4. FLAG statement: *"Criminal conspiracies don't happen amid open forum discussions. I can't imagine that many criminal organizations have large group meetings ... Quite the opposite. Mostly, conspiracy convictions are based on disparate, separate and barely if at all coordinated acts by the conspirators. Meetings are one on one, or (in) tiny minimal groups."*

The one-on-one conspiracy envisioned by FLAG is covered by the definition of conspiracy in Section 4 of the HSA, to wit: "There is conspiracy when two or more persons come to an agreement concerning the commission of the crime of terrorism as defined in Section 3 hereof and decide to commit the same."

5. FLAG statement: *The outlawing of organizations on the grounds that they are "terrorist" is not only vague and ambiguous; it is an open invitation to the authorities to muzzle free speech, to stifle the right to peaceably assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances.*

Once an organization has been proscribed as a terrorist group, leaders and members of such organization may be punished through Article 147 (illegal associations) of the Revised Penal Code. The deposits, outstanding balances, accounts, assets, moneys and property belonging to the organization or members of such organization shall be seized, sequestered and frozen after due process. A member of a proscribed organization can be held liable for an act of terrorism even if he himself did not expressly utter the unlawful demand as it is implied from being a member that the intention of his act is to coerce the government to give in to an unlawful demand.

Article 147 of the Revised Penal Code penalizes illegal associations such that "The penalty of *prision correccional* in its minimum and medium periods and a fine not exceeding P1,000 shall be imposed upon the founders, directors, and presidents of associations totally or partially organized for the purpose of committing any of the crimes punishable under this Code or for some purpose contrary to public morals. Mere members of said associations shall suffer the penalty of *arresto mayor*."

6. FLAG statement: *The two provisions (in Section 18) are contradictory. While the first provision requires personal delivery of the arrested person to the judge nearest the place of arrest, the second provision appears to negate this requirement by requiring only a written notice to the judge nearest the place of arrest.*

This clearly and simply shows the congressional zeal in protecting the rights of the accused. Both provisions should be given full effect. These provisions in Section 18 should be construed "in line with the cardinal rule of statutory construction that, in construing different provisions of one and the same law or code, such interpretation should be favored as will reconcile or harmonize said provisions and avoid a conflict between the same ... the two provisions intended to enforce or implement the same principle," which is to protect the rights of the accused.

7. FLAG statement: *This provision violates due process, since those under surveillance or wiretapping are barred from participating in the proceedings to the detriment of their life and liberty; they are not to be informed of the application or any such authorization order against them.*

Would it be logical to tell a terrorist suspect that government intends to surveil him before doing so? If you were a terrorist, what would you do if someone told you that you will be placed under surveillance and may eventually be arrested?

8. FLAG statement: *The power to examine bank deposits and finances of persons or entities suspected of involvement in terrorism or conspiracy to commit terrorism is particularly alarming. Law enforcers are armed with the widest license to inquire into the bank deposits of persons who are merely assumed or perceived to be terrorists.*

The Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001 (Amla) already allows the examination and freezing of bank deposits. The HSA is even more stringent on law enforcement than the Amla since the HSA requires an authority from the Court of Appeals just to examine bank deposits while the Amla does not.

What are the human rights safeguards in the HSA?

WHILE four provisions of the Act provide for the penalties imposable on convicted terrorist, 22 provisions thereof provide for penalties which may be imposed on law enforcement agents who violate the rights of suspected terrorists. These are:

SEC. 10. Effective Period of Judicial Authorization—10 to 12 years imprisonment for failure to notify the person subject of the surveillance, monitoring, interception and recording if no case is filed;

SEC. 11. Custody of Intercepted and Recorded Communications—6 to 12 years imprisonment for deleting or destroying surveillance tapes, discs and notes;

SEC. 12. Contents of Joint Affidavit—10 to 12 years imprisonment for omitting or excluding from the police joint affidavit any item or portion required herein;

SEC. 13. Disposition of Deposited Materials—6 to 8 years imprisonment for failure to notify in writing the persons subject of the surveillance before using the deposited materials;

SEC. 14. Application to Open Deposited Sealed Envelope or Sealed Package—6 to 8 years imprisonment for failure to notify in writing the persons subject of the surveillance the reason for using the deposited materials;

SEC. 16. Penalty for Unauthorized or Malicious Interceptions and/or Recordings—10 to 12 years imprisonment for unauthorized surveillance and 10 to 12 years imprisonment for maliciously obtaining a surveillance authority;

SEC. 18. Period of Detention Without Judicial Warrant of Arrest—10 to 12 years imprisonment for failure to notify any judge immediately after arresting a suspected terrorist;

SEC. 20. Penalty for Failure to Deliver Suspect to the Proper Judicial Authority Within Three Days—10 to 12 years imprisonment for failure to deliver such charged or suspected person to the proper judicial authority within the period of three days;

SEC. 22. Penalty for Violation of the Rights of a Detainee—10 to 12 years imprisonment for violating any right of a detainee;

SEC. 23. Requirement for an Official Custodial Logbook and Its Contents—10 to 12 years imprisonment for failure to keep an official logbook;

SEC. 25. Penalty for Threat, Intimidation, Coercion, or Torture in the Investigation and Interrogation of a Detained Person—12 to 20 years of imprisonment;

SEC. 30. Effective Period of Court Authorization to Examine and Obtain Information on Bank Deposits, Accounts, and Records—10 to 12 years imprisonment for failure to notify in writing the person subject of the bank examination and freezing if no case is filed;

SEC. 32. Contents of Joint Affidavit—Any person who copies, removes, deletes, expunges incinerates, shreds or destroys bank data and information shall be imprisoned from 6 to 12 years;

SEC. 33. Disposition of Bank Materials—6 to 8 years imprisonment for failure to notify in writing the persons subject of the surveillance before using the bank materials.

Anti-Terrorism Council

NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU
2nd Floor, Los Baños Bldg.
Cor. Peñaranda and Aguinaldo Sts.
Legazpi City
Telefax No. (052) 480-4182
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Website: www.inquirer.net/regions

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

MINDANAO BUREAU
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

Health woes hound Basilan evacuees

COTABATO CITY—Health workers in Basilan rush to work to prevent the possible outbreak of diseases as conditions in various evacuation centers start to worsen, a ranking health official said.

At least 5,000 individuals—including women and children—have fled their villages since two weeks ago in anticipation of full-scale violence between the military and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

More people are expected to flee their homes when the military and the police finally move into MILF territories in Albarka town.

President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier gave the joint government-MILF investigating team only three days from Friday to unmask those behind the July 10 deaths of Marines in Barangay Ginanta in Albarka.

Fourteen Marine soldiers were killed in the encounter, 10 of them beheaded.

Dr. Tahir Sulaik, regional health secretary of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), said health workers in Basilan are conducting preventive measures in anticipation of health problems among the evacuees.

Sulaik said they were particularly concerned about the possible outbreak of diarrhea and other water-borne diseases because of the condition in evacuation centers.

MARINES bid goodbye to their buddies in the Marine contingent of the Presidential Security Group as they are deployed to Basilan to help in offensives against Moro guerrillas who killed 14 of their comrades. LYN RILLON

Cleanup

He said aside from teaching the evacuees how to maintain cleanliness in their surroundings, they also conducted medical checkups in various evacuation centers.

"Children were also given liquid and tablet-form vitamins," he said.

Sulaik said health workers also disinfected water sources in and around the evacuation centers.

Omar Matuan, administrative officer of the regional health office, said during his dialogue with local leaders and health workers, he emphasized the importance of cooperation with the evacuees to prevent diseases.

Basilan Vice Gov. Al-Rasheed Sakkalahul admitted that helping each other in times of emergency is the key to greater survival.

Hero's burial

Just as residents of Basilan grapple with evacuation, the entire village of Manalo in Puerto Princesa City in Palawan mourned as Marine Cpl. Arjurin Eleazar was buried last Thursday.

Eleazar, who was accorded hero honors through resolutions passed by the barangay council, the Sangguniang Panlunsod and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, was one of the 14 Marines killed in Basilan last July 10 while on their way home from operations in search for kidnapped Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi.

Eleazar was one of the 10 Marines who were beheaded and mutilated.

Before his body was brought to the cemetery, it was first brought to the barangay hall for necrological rites where the village officials, his teachers during his elementary days and residents paid their last respects.

Resolution No. 17-2007 of the barangay council was read and given to his parents during the rites.

Role model

"This time has come, which, for us, seems to be the hardest thing to accept. We would like to thank everybody who supported us through this," Emily Eleazar, Arjurin's aunt, said.

Adoracion Latube, Eleazar's teacher during his elementary days, described him as a role model among his peers.

"He was very responsible and you could see that his parents gave everything they had for him and his brothers and sisters to grow properly," Latube said.

"He was a friend to all—his schoolmates as well as his teachers," she added.

As a recognition, Latube also said the Parent-Teacher Community Association of Manalo Elementary School agreed to install him as a hero.

"From now on, his name will be mentioned to our pupils a hero," she said.

For his part, Manalo village chief Rafael Ibañez said Eleazar indeed deserved all the accolades he received.

"I hope the youth will emulate him," he said. "I had known him to be responsible and disciplined. In 14 years as a barangay captain, I never heard of any complain against him nor had he any bad record in the barangay," Ibañez added.

Military honors

Elements of the Marine Battalion Landing Team 10 stationed here gave full military honors to Eleazar during his burial.

And to show support to their fallen comrade and express their rage over how he was killed, the Marines fired off their rifles.

Eleazar's younger brother, Aldrin, later had his share of expressing his rage as he was given the chance to fire a rifle.

Aldrin is a senior student in one of the colleges here taking up BS Criminology.

Later after the ceremony, he said the bullets he fired were wasted. "It should have been aimed at the killers," he said.

Charlie Señase, Inquirer Mindanao and Geraldford P. Ticke, contributor

Survivor of summary execution try says courts inept vs slays

BAGUIO CITY—A BAYAN MUNA leader who survived an ambush in Kalinga last year said the National Consultative Commission on Extrajudicial Killings and Forced Disappearances was an admission that the judiciary system was not prepared to handle political killings.

"Justice Reynato Puno's efforts at the summit is in itself an admission that the present judiciary system is not prepared, nor does it have the real power to make sure that justice prevails," Dr. Constacio "Chandu" Claver, chair of Bayan Muna-Kalinga, said in an e-mail to the INQUIRER on Wednesday.

Claver said his wife, Alice Omengan-Claver, is only one of those who have been killed in the government's campaign against "imagined terrorists."

On July 31 last year, the Claver couple and their daughter were attacked by armed men in Tabuk town in Kalinga.

Alice, also a member of Bayan Muna-Kalinga, died four hours after the attack.

Death anniversary

Her family and friends will observe her first death anniversary on Saturday with a Mass at the St. Thomas Parish in Tabuk.

Claver, who is now based in Canada with his three children, said his family was forced to leave the country because of the threats they had been receiving.

He said his children, despite the trauma of being forcibly made motherless, have coped. "It is another legacy of strength from Alice, I believe. And we have decided to continue the fight somewhere else," he said in his e-mail.

Claver said it is apparent from the many investigations and pieces of evidence that the extrajudicial killings are "being systematically undertaken by the military as part of official procedure and policy of the state."

A SCENE from the summit organized by the Supreme Court on extrajudicial killings at the Manila Hotel. REM ZAMORA

Insanity

"However, no State will ever own up to something like that. The leadership and the Armed Forces of the Philippines seem to really believe that they can change things with a bloodbath like this. They are insane," he said.

Claver said the enactment of the Human Security Act would only give the Arroyo administration legal justification to pursue its attack against the legal Left.

The law would only give President Macapagal-Arroyo the leeway and more options in coming up with strategies to preserve her position, he said.

He said countries like Canada have their own version of an antiterrorist law.

"But one common comment from the Filipino immigrants is that the Philippine Human Security Act is more indiscriminate, and more rabid. People believe that these are the essentials for setting up de facto martial rule in the Philippines," he said.

He said the campaign against extrajudicial killings has attracted the European Union and other countries to look into the situation of the Philippines. *Desiree Caluza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

Customs execs, cops padlock oil firm tanks over unpaid tax

MARIVELES, BATAAN—Customs Commissioner Napoleon Morales padlocked on Thursday the Oilink Terminal's oil storage tank in Barangay Lucanin here for tax deficiency amounting to P353 million.

Morales, who personally sealed off the storage tank's main gate valve with packing tape, said the Oilink's principal tax obligation amounted only to P139 million in September 2004 but because of penalties it ballooned to P353 million.

"The Oilink had been given a seven-day grace period within which to settle its tax problem with the government but still failed to do so," Morales said.

The tank contained about 40 million liters of diesel fuel and other petroleum products, which the Bureau of Customs could offer for public bidding unless the company settled its obligation within 30 days, he said.

Payment

"The company's storage content is more than enough to settle its obligations," Morales said, adding that more oil companies are expected to suffer the same fate as did Oilink unless they comply with the tariffs and customs code.

Established in 1996, the Oilink Terminal stores and supplies diesel fuel, gasoline, asphalt and other petroleum products to its outlets, Unioil gasoline stations.

Kennetch Pundanera, marketing and operations manager of Unioil, bewailed what he called "use of force" in padlocking the oil terminal.

He said customs officials, with the help of the police special action force, treated the Oilink workers "as if they were criminals" when they raided the office.

Pundanera said there was no prior notice of the closure order from the Bureau of Customs or the police so his staff and barge workers were surprised by the police operation. *Greg Refraccion, Inquirer Central Luzon*

Cops see trouble in enforcing terror law

CAMP DANGWA, BENGUET—The police have admitted that they cannot afford to enforce the antiterror law because it prescribes harsh penalties and jail time for law enforcers who inadvertently pursue the wrong terror suspects.

What's worse for the police is that they must enforce a law that has an obscure definition for terrorism, which increases the odds that law enforcers would end up making mistakes, said Senior Insp. John Ekid, a lawyer.

"The second element [to establish] terrorism [is the act of] creating a condition of widespread and extraordinary fear and panic among the populace. *Parang mahirap i-distinguish kung ano ang* (It seems difficult to distinguish between) extraordinary fear and panic and ordinary fear and panic," said Ekid, who is the Cordillera police's only legal officer.

"*Para matawag na* widespread... *kailangan bang buong Pilipinas merong* fear *sa mga tao natin o... nararamdaman lang ng isang barangay* (To be referred to as widespread fear, should terrorism affect the whole Philippines or is it already terrorism even if it is felt only by a barangay?)," he asked reporters at a briefing on Wednesday.

Police doubts

Ekid said this is an example of why police also fear the antiterror law or Republic Act No. 9827.

At a human rights forum last week, lawyer Harry Roque, director of the University of the Philippines Institute of International Legal Studies, predicted this problem.

"Even if the government disseminates what the law is all about, the police will not understand it as long as there is no standard definition. This is the same condition confronting all people with average intelligence," Roque said.

During the press briefing, Chief Supt. Raul Gonzales, Cordillera police director, said the Philippine National Police directorate for operations and its legal affairs division have asked a study group to determine how vulnerable policemen have become in confronting terrorism.

He said this is the only antiterror law in the world where subjects of surveillance must first be advised about police investigations before law enforcers can proceed with their work.

Stiff costs

Section 50 of the law has been criticized because it requires the police to pay a suspect acquitted by the court P500,000 "for every day that he or she has been detained or deprived of liberty or arrested without a warrant as a result of such an accusation."

Section 41 of the law requires the police or the Anti-Terror Council, that oversees enforcement, to pay an acquitted suspect P500,000 for every day pieces of his or her properties or assets were confiscated as evidence by the state.

"We still do not know where to get that [amount]," Gonzales said.

The law also demands a six-month jail term for the arresting officers should the release of an acquitted suspect is delayed.

Gonzales said the police study group's conclusions could either convince the 14th Congress to amend the law or refine a working manual that would guide the police in pursuing terrorists. *Vincent Cabreza, with a report from Desiree Caluza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

INQUIRER *Mindanao*

E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/regions
Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Kidnapping 'blessing in disguise'

'Let us help one another for Payao...'

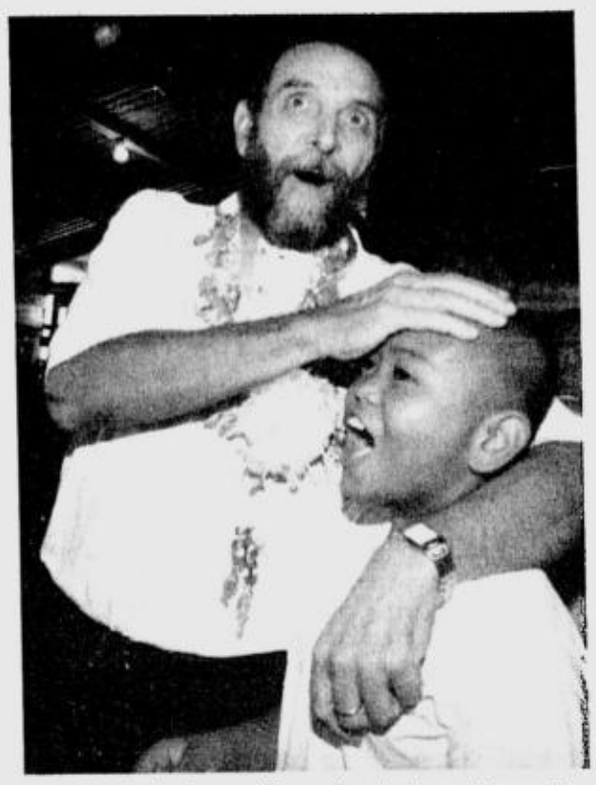
By Leah P. Bugtay, *Contributor*
Payao, Zamboanga Sibugay

BANGON PAYAO!THE PEOPLE of Payao made this call as they marched on the narrow streets of this municipality, just a day after kidnapped Italian priest Giancarlo Bossi bade them goodbye.

"Let's continue with our unity, rise from the negative feedback, and work for peace and development," Payao Mayor Joeper Mendoza told the hundreds of men, women and children who braved the alternating scorching heat and drizzle as they joined the peace caravan on Thursday.

Payao, Mendoza said, has even become a subject of banter in the province, following the abduction of Bossi in the village of Silal.

Secretary Jesus Dureza, presidential assistant on the peace process, encouraged the people to transform the kidnapping of Bossi into an opportunity to allow Payao to move toward peace and progress.



A FIGURE that loomed large in a backward town, Fr. Giancarlo Bossi, plays with children, who learned to look up to him as a father, as he bade goodbye to the town he loved so dearly. RAFFY LERMA

Strength

"I told the mayor that this incident should not weaken us. On the contrary, we're going to use that incident to become an opportunity. Take advantage of this," he said in an interview.

Dureza then informed the crowd of the P5-million assistance to the seaweed industry development of Payao through the GoP-UN Action for Conflict Transformation (ACT) for Peace Program, which he serves as the national program director.

"The way to peace is not only through peace negotiation. Yes, negotiations contribute to peace. But the most important thing is for the people to have decent livelihood and have peace of mind," he said.

He asked the people of Payao, which is home to around 45,000 Christians, Muslims and lumad, to understand and respect the differences of one another to sustain peace in the community.

"Even if I signed 100 peace agreements if you and your neighbor are fighting or political bickering is strong in your community, nothing will happen to our communities," he said.

Covenant

The community and key leaders also signed a peace covenant reiterating their unity toward peace.

"Let us help one another for Payao. I commit myself to become your *bata-bata* (bridge) to Malacañang," he added, to the cheer of the people, many of whom were amazed to see for the first time high-ranking government officials.

Zamboanga Sibugay Gov. George Hofer, who was on his second visit to Payao, gave a commitment to immediately rehabilitate the road going to the municipality, which is 73 kilometers away from Ipil, 23 km of which are "rough road."

Dureza and Undersecretary Renato Ebarle, of the Presidential Management Staff, on the other hand, pledged to assist the processing of papers needed by the Payao local government unit for the conversion of the road going to the town into a secondary road.

Other officials participating in the peace caravan were Rep. Belma Cabilao; Maj. Gen. Nehemias Pajarito of the Tabak Division; Col. Jovencio Magalso of the 102nd Brigade of the Philippine Army; Mayors Expedito Gonzales of Imelda and Walter Palma of Diplahan, both in Zamboanga Sibugay; Director Nasrodding Dacula, provincial director of Office of Muslim Affairs, and Fr. Robert Brillantes, new parish priest of Payao.

Also present were representatives of different sectors, traditional leaders, peace and development advocates in Zamboanga Peninsula and students.

Many of those who joined the caravan were happy to see and hear many of their government officials.

Close encounter

"Most of them I saw only on posters (during elections) or in the newspapers. I am so happy to see them," said Dricksa Pañarec, a first year student at the Payao National High School.

In jest, the master of ceremony said the kidnapping was "a blessing in disguise" as it brought key leaders to the community.

It was a joyous day for the people of Payao as, aside from seeing personalities, they were also enjoying cultural presentations from different groups.

Many of them also availed of the services from the medical and dental mission conducted by the Integrated Provincial Health Office and the Philippine Army's 102nd Brigade.

But the mention of the name of Bossi brought a hint of sadness to some people in the crowd. For the students of Payao National High School, they would miss the priest's funny gestures, particularly his kissing of the hands of the students who would like to kiss his hand.

The peace caravan is among the initiatives being undertaken by the local government and the Church with the assistance of the civil society groups and the ACT for Peace to strengthen the relations of the members of the community.

Yesterday, community leaders participated in an inter-religious dialogue, discussing the teachings of one's religion on understanding, respect, love and peace as well as views on development.

For now, the people of Payao are helping one another understand what happened to their community, re-strengthen their ties between and among themselves and move on as one community.

INTRODUCING
6K txt2fly
NOW BOOKING A FLIGHT IS JUST A TXT AWAY!
Experience a most convenient way to book a flight to BORACAY or to any of Asian Spirit's Domestic and International destinations anytime, anywhere in the Philippines! type 6K HELP to download all keywords on your cellphone and send to:

SMART 0928 - 9599309
GLOBE 0917 - 3725272
SUN 0922 - 5059515

KEYWORDS	DESCRIPTION
6KBOOKOW OriginFlight # space Last Name space First Name space Title space Departure Date	• To book one way flight
6KBOOKRT Origin Flight # space Return Flight # space Last Name space First Name space Title space Origin flight date space Return flight date	• To book roundtrip flight
<destination>	• To know Asian Spirit destinations

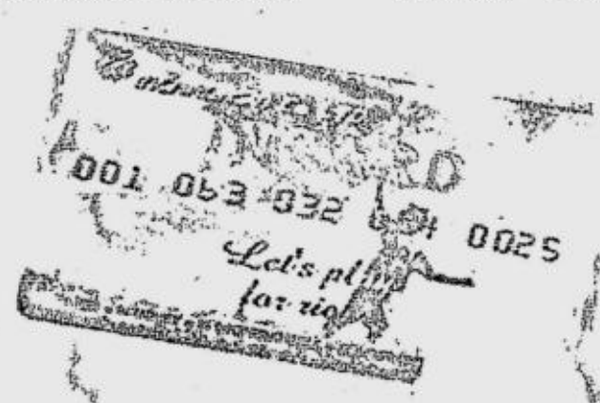
See poster & fliers for details

Note: 1. Keywords are not Case sensitive
2. This facility is limited to Philippine based cellphone users only

Domestic routes: Boracay · Baguio · Batanes · Busuanga · Catarman · Calbayog · Cagayan de Oro · Cebu · Davao · Jolo · Manila · Masbate · Pagadian · San Fernando, La Union · San Jose · Surigao · Tawi-Tawi · Virac · Zamboanga
International routes:
Palau, Micronesia · Sandakan, Malaysia · Incheon, Korea

For reservations call: 855-3333
Asian Spirit
www.asianspirit.com
powered by: infotxt

IncardAsia Co Ltd
Let's Play for Rich!!!



HELPING PEOPLE!!!
IMPROVE THEIR LIFESTYLE!!!
A Multi National Corporation is expanding its industry in the Philippines
Cracks down poverty through unique AMS System.

Be a part of the unique AMS System and enjoy the benefits

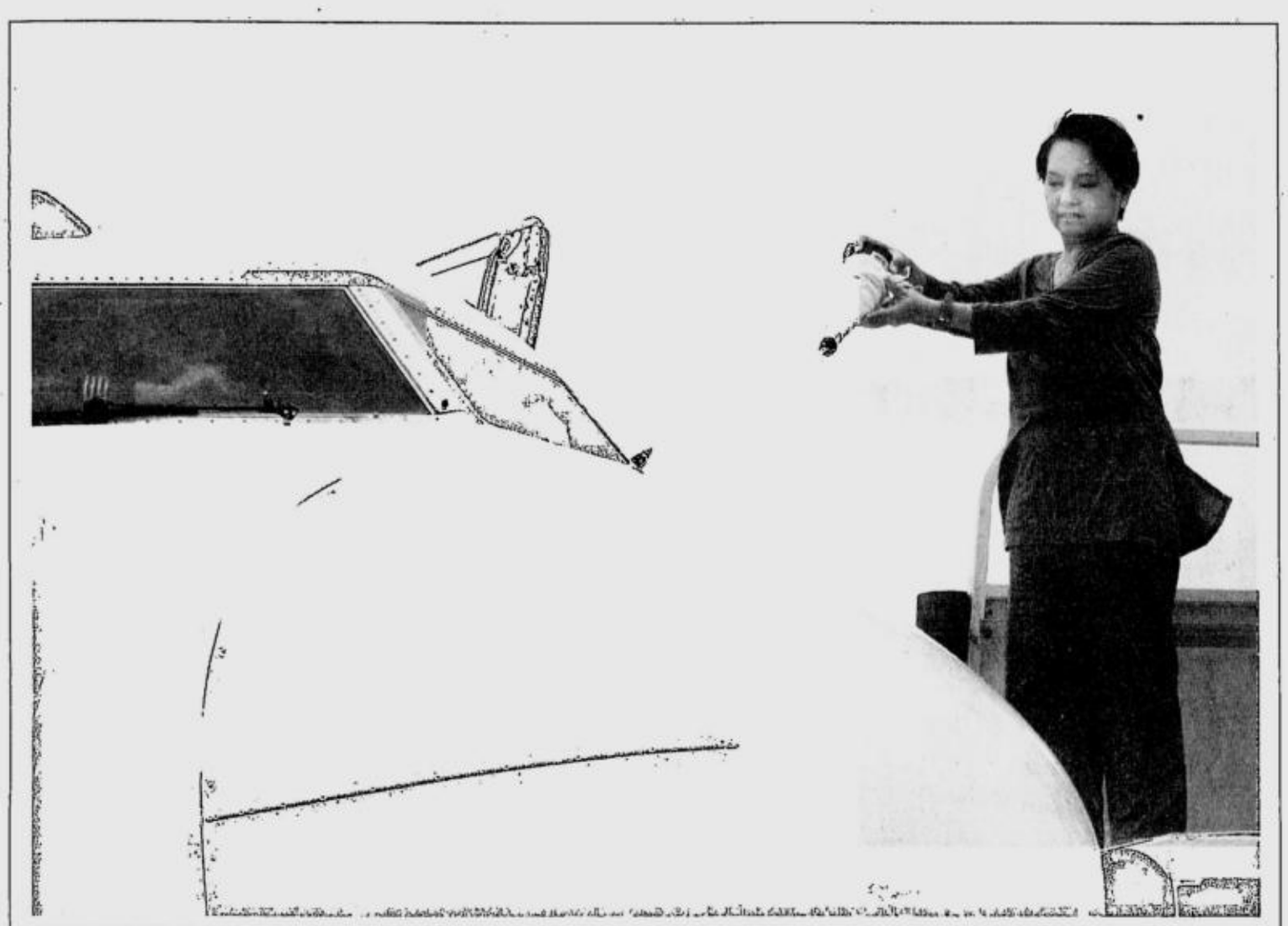
✓ Stable Job
✓ An Insured Life
✓ Great Opportunities
✓ Leisure and Income
✓ Changed Lifestyle

A fast growing Multi National Company, that brings HOPE, OPPORTUNITY & BENEFITS to everybody from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, is in need of competent individuals and experience the nature of marketing
We are in need of:
1. General Manager with 10 years experience (For the headquarters)
2. Marketing Manager with 5 years experience in Marketing Company (For the headquarters and local offices)
3. Trainers for Marketing Staff with 5 years experience in training a group. (For the headquarters and local offices)
4. Marketing Staff (For the headquarters and local offices)
5. Secretary with 1 year experience (For the headquarters)
If you are ENERGETIC, ENTHUSIASTIC & HARDWORKING you can apply to us and be part of us and together..
LET'S PLAY FOR RICH!!!
(032) 418-7777 loc. 1905-1907 • E-mail: admin@incardasia.com • Website: www.incardasia.com

INCARD ASIA CO. LTD.
An established company based in Hong Kong
Due to the rapid expansion of our business nationwide, we are now looking for
LOCAL AGENTS (OFFICES)
For selected areas all over the Philippines.
for inquiries and clarifications regarding applicant's qualifications, requirements, and terms and conditions, contact us at:
(032) 418-7777 loc. 1905-1907
E-mail: admin@incardasia.com • Website: www.incardasia.com

AREA	NO. OF BRANCHES
Luzon	17
Visayas	8
Mindanao	9

LOCAL AREAS	NO. OF BRANCHES
Manila	6
Cebu	4
Davao	4



NEW AIRLINE LYN RILLON

President Macapagal-Arroyo pours champagne over the nose of the Pacific Pearl Airways RP-C87777 Boeing 737 aircraft at its inauguration in the Subic International Airport Terminal, SBMA, Olongapo City, Zambales. Pearl Air will fly direct from various South Korean airports to Kalibo airport. It will also have flights from Subic to Iloilo, Cebu, Palawan and Davao.

Army accuses rebels of using civilians as 'human shields'

BAGUIO CITY—COMMUNIST rebels operating in Kalinga used villagers as human shields during an encounter on July 21, a report from the military's Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) said.

The report said the New People's Army rebels operating in Pinukpuk, Kalinga, seized 60 residents as human shields, prompting the soldiers to suppress their fire for fear that they would hit the civilians.

Around 70 heavily armed rebels, led by a certain Kennedy Bangibang, secretary of the Kilusang Larangan Gerilya of the Ilocos-Cordillera Regional Committee, attacked the Wagud Detachment of Echo Company under the 77th Infantry Battalion headed by Lt. Col. Elias Escarcha, the report said.

The clash occurred at around 1 p.m. in Barangay Wagud in Pinukpuk town.

A certain Sergeant Gayyong was wounded and a member of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographic Unit (Cafgu) identified as Jimmy Banatao died in the four-hour gunfight.

"While withdrawing from the scene, the NPA rebels encountered the reinforcing troops and sensing the determination of the government forces to neutralize them, they seized some 60 residents and used them as human shields, prompting the troops to suppress their fire for fear that they will hit the innocent civilians," the report said.

But Ka Tipon Gil-ayab, spokesperson of the Lejo Cawilan Command of NPA-Kalinga, denied the report.

"The simple truth is that it is the military, not the NPA, that has been using civilians as human shields. This is evident from the mere fact that the military has set up its detachments right in the middle of residential areas," Gil-ayab said in statement.

He said the 501st IB, the 21st IB and the 77th IB have established 23 patrol bases and Cafgu detachments in the towns of Balbalan, Pinukpuk, Pasil, Tinglayan, Tabuk and Rizal, all in Kalinga. *Desiree Caluza, Inquirer Northern Luzon*

Ex-NPA stronghold now agri area in Banahaw

SARIAYA, QUEZON—ONCE known as a "Red area," a stronghold of communist New People's Army rebels, the cluster of several mountain villages lying along the slopes of Mt. Banahaw is now identified as a "green area," being the alternative source of vegetables for Metro Manila and the neighboring provinces of Quezon.

"Most of the farmers in our place were former active NPA supporters. But now that the rebels are gone, we're all busy farming and on how to further improve the quality of our vegetables," Ernesto Remo, village chief of Mamala Uno, told the INQUIRER in an interview Friday.

Remo was at the meeting of the Mt. Banahaw Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) held at the "Sentrong Pamilihan ng Produktong Agrikultura ng Quezon" (SPPAQ) in the village of Sampaloc Dos beside the Maharlika Highway here.

The mountain village of Mamala became popular in the 1980s as a rebel-controlled area where the communist rebels, led by Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal, freed their "prisoners of war"—four police and Army officials—in a ceremony well covered by members of the national and international press.

Sanctuary

Remo described the present peace and order situation in their area as "generally peaceful" compared to the tumultuous years of the insurgency, with Mt. Banahaw serving as a sanctuary for communist guerrillas.

"Before, once you mentioned Mt. Banahaw, what would come next was the name of Ka Roger and the NPA. But now, it's quite different. Our place is now a peaceful farming village—popular for fresh vegetables," he said.

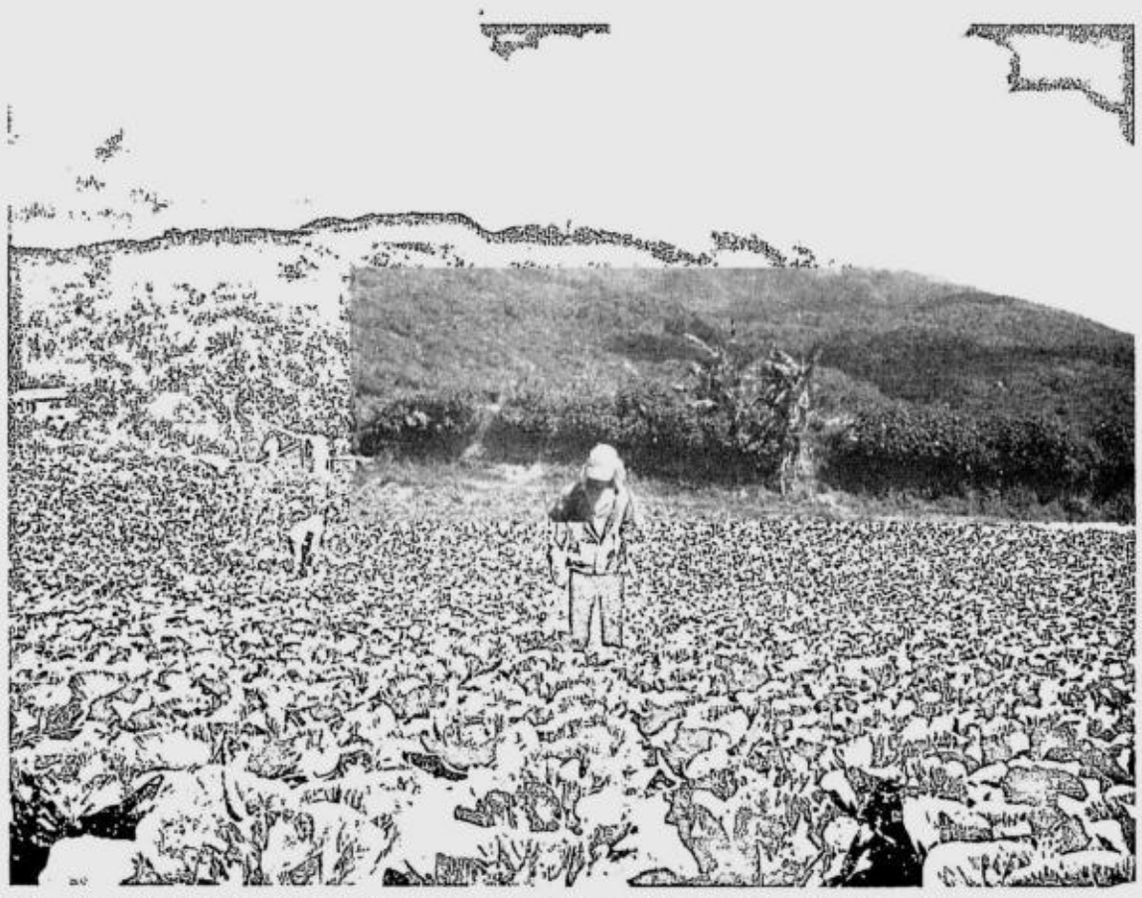
Isko Veleña, a leader of Barangay Concepcion Pinagbakuran and president of "Bantay Banahaw," recalled that he used to ride on his horse for 12 kilometers and travel along rough mountain trails just to sell his farm products.

"We now have good roads and good prices for our vegetables," he said.

He admitted that most of the mountain farmers resorted to slash-and-burn farming in the past due to the lack of farmlands.

He disclosed that he used to support the rebel movement.

"But now, I'm into purely farming," the old man explained.



A FARM on the slopes of Mt. Banahaw now produces vegetables for Metro Manila and Quezon provinces. It was once an area where communist guerrillas sought sanctuary and where they freed their captives.

DELFIN MALLARI JR./INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

Buying station

The recent opening of the SPPAQ, a central vegetable buying station for Mt. Banahaw farmers which was initiated by Quezon Rep. Proceso Alcala (2nd District) as part of his agricultural development program, has sparked a vibrant agriculture-based economy for mountain farmers.

It was agreed upon that the farmers would directly sell their harvest to the SPPAQ at the prevailing market price.

In return, the central vegetable station would provide the farm inputs—seeds, fertilizer and pesticide—which will form part of their interest-free loan.

The vegetable trading station picks the harvest straight from the mountain fields. The farm produce is being paid for in cash by the SPPAQ.

Alcala explained that the vegetable trading station would not only serve the marketing needs of Mt. Banahaw farmers but would also help rehabilitate the damaged mountain.

"What we've been inculcating in the minds of the farmers is not only the material gains from the vibrant agricultural economy but also the need for a united and concerted effort to rehabilitate and resurrect Mt. Banahaw from long years of massive destruction," said the lawmaker.

Alcala, a noted environmentalist, has been introducing alternative livelihood projects for the hundreds of farmers who depend on slash-and-burn farming practices in the mountain.

One of the mountain farmers interviewed by the INQUIRER blamed the rebel movement as the cause of the widespread forest destruction brought by slash-and-burn farming.

Mutual benefits

"The NPA tolerated the farmers just to solicit their support for the movement," recalled the farmer who requested anonymity.

In 2004, the PAMB sealed off with barbed wire several trails leading to the bosom of Banahaw to start a five-year rehabilitation program that aims to resurrect the mountain's natural resources.

The mountain suffered so much degradation not only from "kaingin" farming but also from irresponsible practices of mountain climbers, modern pilgrims and urban nature trippers. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., Inquirer Southern Luzon*

Execs say hog cholera in Bulacan under control

GUIGUINTO, BULACAN—THE hog cholera or swine flu struck backyard piggery farms in 20 of 24 towns in Bulacan but officials assured that commercial farms, which supply the pork demands in Metro Manila and nearby provinces, remained unaffected.

Felipe Bartolome, provincial veterinarian, said the swine flu virus did not affect backyard farms in upper mountainous towns of Norzagaray, Angat, Doña Remedios Trinidad and the City of San Jose del Monte.

He said 3,150 hogs and piglets from 194 backyard farms in 55 villages in 18 towns and two cities in the province were affected and 160 of them were reported to have died.

He said, however, the mortality rate remained low because the commercial farms in Bulacan, which comprise 80 percent of the hog industry, were free of swine flu.

Bulacan, one of the largest sources of pork products, has about 300 hog and swine farms. The province supplies most of the meat needs of Metro Manila.

Acting Bulacan Gov. Wilhelmino Sy-Alvarado called on the public not to be alarmed, saying that the cases were "due to the rainy season."

He said they have put up checkpoints in key areas in the province to ensure that contaminated meat will not reach public markets.

"Only 26 percent of the more one million animals have been sick," he said.

Gladys Sta. Rita, provincial administrator, said a crisis management team is making sure that "no contaminated meat or infected swine shall be shipped out of the farms and pig pens."

Miguelito Hizon, president of commercial farm associations in Bulacan, said their animals are not affected by the swine flu because they conduct regular monthly vaccinations on their animals and observe sanitation procedures.

On Thursday, officials here buried 46 piglets, six fatteners and two dogs which were believed to have died of hog cholera this week.

The decomposing carcasses of the animals were dumped in an irrigation canal in Barangay Tiaong here.

Bartolome said municipal agriculture officers had been ordered to closely monitor backyard farms and to properly dispose of dead animals.

"Hog raisers should observe biosecurity measures and sanitary procedures. Otherwise the disease will spread," he said. *Carmela Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon*

2008 DEPED BUDGET

Loren: Spend ₱150B on 'relevant education'

By Carla P. Gomez
Inquirer Visayas

BACOLOD CITY—SEN. LOREN Legarda has urged the government to "focus on viable and relevant education" to make effective use of the P150 billion proposed funding for education in the 2008 national budget, which is the biggest allocation for the sector so far.

"The contribution to our highly-skilled and highly-competitive human capital should be a sizable portion of our GDP. Only a competitive education system can lay the foundation for this," Legarda said.

The P150 billion proposed budget could be a big boost to education if wisely spent on programs that really matter, or the funds could just end up as a big figure that may not change anything about education's sorry state, she said.

Legarda, who spoke on Thursday before members of the Negros Occidental Teachers Federation here, also said she is filing a bill that seeks to give a fair and just compensation package to teachers, enough to give them decent lives.

She also noted the importance of training and retraining teachers to maintain competitiveness.

SEN. LOREN Legarda greets and poses with her friends at a Carmelite monastery for nuns before attending the Negros Occidental Teachers Federation's 61st Annual Assembly in Bacolod City.

JOSEPH VIDAL/CONTRIBUTOR

"In many developed economies, training and retraining of skilled workers and professionals is called the strategic new frontier in maintaining competitiveness," she said.

Legada stressed that for the "basic education sector the central thrust should be Back to Basics."

This meant building enough classrooms, with science laboratories and well-equipped libraries, as well as hiring dedicated teachers who are motivated by higher compensation and perks, she added.

Legarda also stressed the need to establish "smart classrooms" that are wired with computers and Internet connections.

"This is to provide generic adequacy to students in the fields of science, match, reading and writing, which should be the basic objectives of schools, along with courses in civics and culture," she said.

Legarda also cited the need for training of experts in various fields such as nuclear physics, information technology, finance and industrial designers even as she suggested that universities be converted into enclaves for research and development.

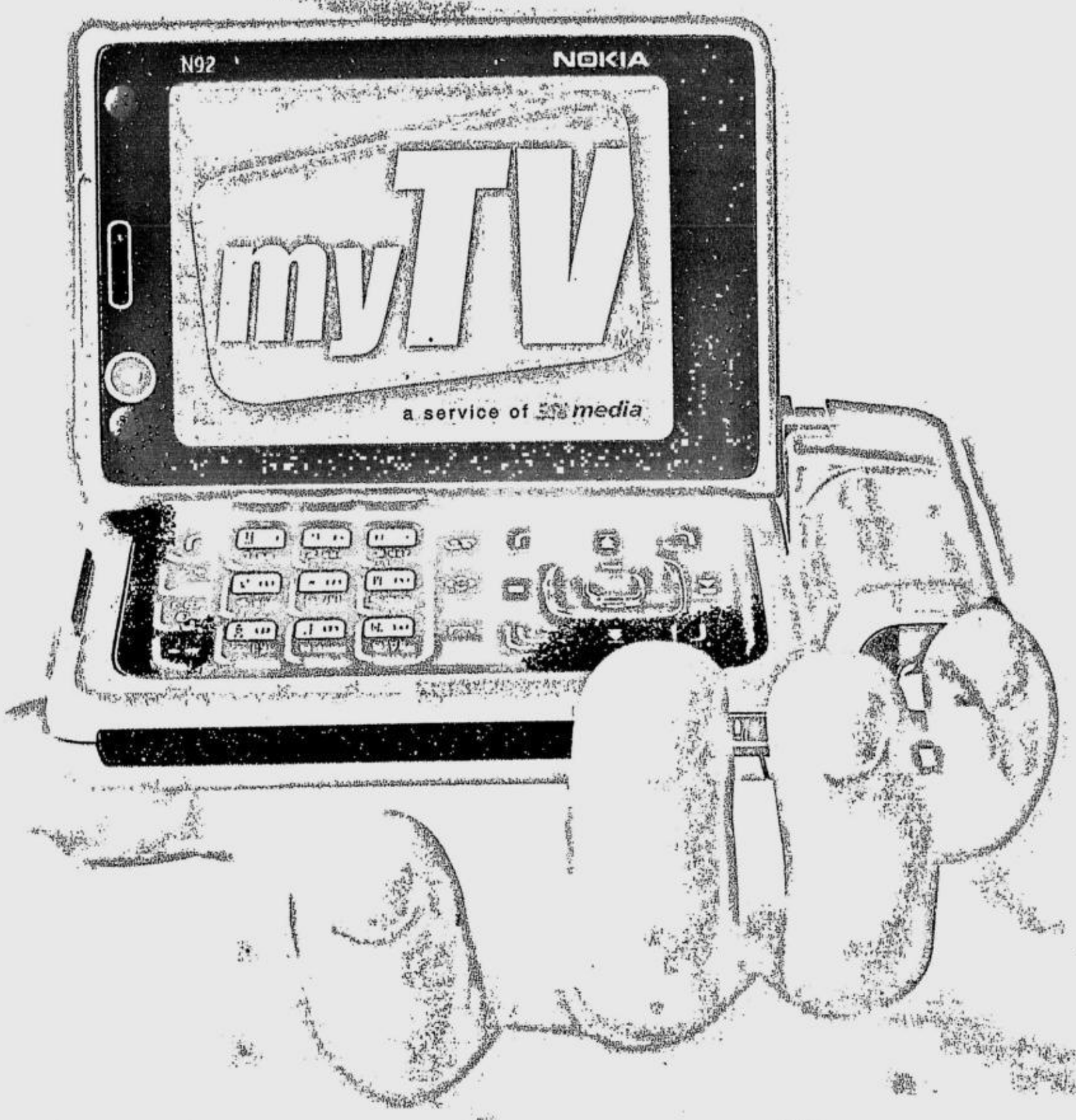
Legarda said she is also refiling her bill seeking to create an information and communications technology department to make the Philippines at par with other Asian countries, like India.

She also stressed the need for others to train in technical skills that the manufacturing and services sectors need from world-class welders to bartenders.

"Superior skills will vest our workers with a competitive edge either in the domestic or global job market," she said.

The country's first mobile TV right in your hand.

SMART



TV anytime, anywhere.

WIDEST COVERAGE

CLICK AND WATCH

LIVE

UNLIMITED VIEWING

Watch it now! FREE Trial until August 31, 2007

Entertainment

Never miss another show from popular channels

News

See the news unfold as it happens. When it happens.

Sports

Catch the latest sporting events on the go

Documentaries

Always be informed and in the know

Subscribe now! Call 6988 or 888-1111 for more info.

For more details, call the myTV hotline at *6988 through your SMART cellphone, 888-1111 through landline or visit any SMART Wireless Center.

DIAL SMART TAYO

The country's first mobile TV right in your hand

SMART

TV anytime, anywhere.

WIDEST COVERAGE

CLICK AND WATCH

UNLIMITED VIEWING

Watch it now! FREE Trial until August 31, 2007

ENTERTAINMENT

SPORTS

INFORMATION

Subscribe now! Call *6988 or 888-1111 for more info.

For more details, call the myTV hotline at *6988 through your SMART cellphone, 888-1111 through landline or visit any SMART Wireless Center.

METRO plus

Website: www.inquirer.net/metro

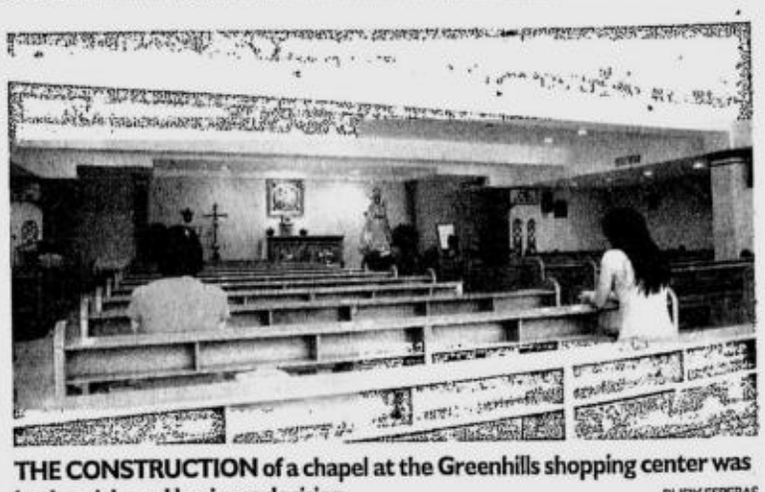
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil

Text us your feedback: inquirer met name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

STAINED glass windows and small carvings of the Stations of the Cross liven up the Rockwell Power Plant Mall chapel in Makati. RODEL ROTONI

COLLECTIONS taken up at the chapel in SM Megamall are donated to poorer parishes. RYAN LIM

MORE than 1,000 people attend Sunday Mass regularly at the SM chapel. RYAN LIM



THE CONSTRUCTION of a chapel at the Greenhills shopping center was both a civic and business decision. RUDY ESPERAS

MASS AT THE MALL

Emerging phenomenon draws praise, flak

By Kristine L. Alave and DJ Yap

MALLING HAS BEEN CALLED the new national past time. Every weekend, hordes of people, families and teenage cliques, troop to malls for sightseeing, to shop and surprisingly, to hear Mass.

Church services in malls are a relatively new phenomenon, an indication of the pervasive influence of the mall culture and proof of the evolving Filipino lifestyle.

It also serves as the perfect example of the marriage between business and religion as it responds to a specific need of shoppers and lengthens their stay inside the store.

SM Prime Holdings Inc., which built a chapel inside one of its biggest complexes, the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City, was one of first developers that gave a space for religion inside its mall.

Independent mall chapel

The Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord, located on the fifth floor of Building A, is the first and only independent mall chapel in the country, answerable only to the Archdiocese of Manila. The rest are under the jurisdiction of the parish where they are located.

Msgr. Bong Lo, chaplain, said the chapel was built nine years ago upon the prodding of SM matriarch Felicidad Sy, who happens to be a devout Catholic.

Before that, the mall offered Mass in the lobby, which eventually, could not accommodate the growing number of worshippers.

According to Lo, the chapel's Sunday attendance is quite impressive, with about 1,100 people attending Mass regularly.

Lo said he could understand why people would want to attend Mass in the malls instead of the traditional churches. For one, it is more comfortable because of the air-conditioning, he said.

It is also more convenient for people as they can attend to their spiritual and worldly tasks under one roof, he added.

Asked if he is concerned that bringing the Mass, a highly ritualized and spiritual tradition, to a decidedly commercial and mundane environment, would cheapen what should be a holy and personal experience, Lo said that would never be the case.

"It's a conscious effort of the Church to go where the people are. We have to meet people halfway. It's the evangelizing spirit of the Church," Lo explained.

The other pioneer is the Ortigas family, developer of the Greenhills Shopping Complex in San Juan City, which built both a chapel for Catholics and a prayer room for Muslims on its property.

Controversial

The prayer room, built three years ago and the first in the country, created controversy when residents from the nearby gated subdivision opposed its construction for fear that it would bring unpleasant elements to the neighborhood.

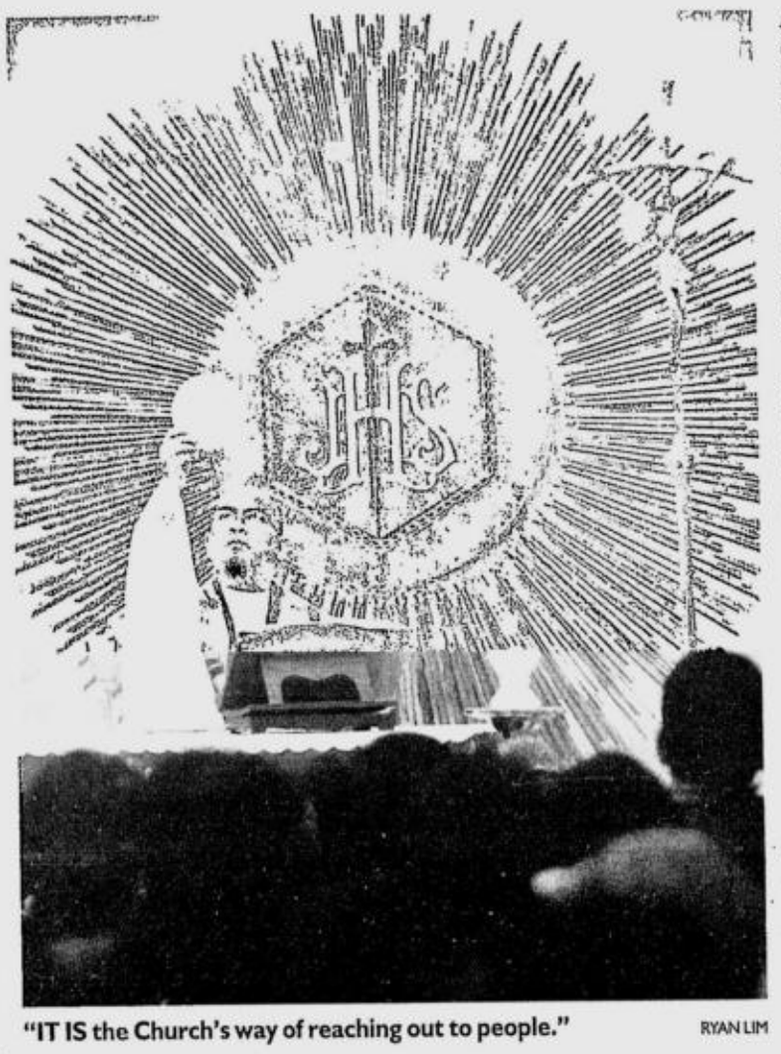
In a move of solidarity with his Muslim counterparts, Archbishop of Manila Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales also stopped the services in the chapel until the issue was resolved.

Rex Drilon II, chief operating officer of the Ortigas and Co. Ltd. Partnership, said the prayer room was built to accommodate the needs of Muslim traders in the Greenhills flea market.

Drilon said the prayer room, which is carpeted, air-conditioned, and has a *halal* canteen next door, was the company's way of giving back to around 500 Muslim merchants and their staff.

"They pray five times a day. With the prayer room, they didn't have to go to the Quiapo Mosque and come back to Greenhills again," he noted.

Drilon added that he has heard complaints about mixing religion with business, but he has dismissed them all.



"IT IS the Church's way of reaching out to people." RYAN LIM

"There are ultra-conservatives who frown on this development. But God is everywhere. You don't have to go to a church to pray," he noted.

At the Power Plant Mall, tucked away in a corner of the third floor and just a few feet from the bowling alley, is a place not many would expect to find in a shopping complex—a chapel.

But while the serene atmosphere inside the hall seems out of step with the otherwise materialistic scene beyond its doors, people keep drifting in, perhaps for a moment's prayer or to hear Holy Mass.

By any standard, the chapel, suffused in a pale golden light, has all the trimmings of any House of God, save for the synthetic rattan chairs in place of pews.

Stained glass windows overlook a park lined with palm trees; on the walls hang miniature carvings of the Stations of the Cross; and facing the tall wooden doors is an oil painting of Jesus Christ. Everywhere, in keeping with the gold-and-white motif, the mood is somber and peaceful.

On a humid Thursday afternoon, Fr. Albert Flores is celebrating Mass before a fairly sizable crowd of churchgoers.

Many of them belong to Rockwell Center's target market, the A-B crowd. Clad in smart casual clothes, the congregation is mostly middle-aged with little children tagging along.

Almost natural

For many people, the celebration of Mass inside places like Power Plant Mall, and other shopping centers, has become almost natural in an age of increasingly busy and modern lifestyles.

"It's not easy for us to go to Mass regularly on Sunday, so we have to find other ways to do it," said one homemaker, Natasha, who did not want to give her last name.

"I think it's a good thing they have a chapel here, because that way, I can pray more often, unlike before," Natasha said.

"Before, every time we plan to go to church, it never pushes through for some reason or other. But here, for example, I can go to church before I do my grocery run," she added.

Not everyone, however, is as comfortable with the idea of going to Mass inside a mall as Natasha. Take Victor Tabang, who works as a security guard at the mall.

The old fashioned way

According to him, he still prefers the old fashioned way of going to church in one's Sunday best.

"It's different somehow. When people go to church, that's the only thing they are thinking of," Tabang said.

But he said he understands why some people like going to church inside the mall. "We really can't blame them. People are always so busy, so I guess they have no choice," he said.

For Msgr. Nico Bautista, one of the more outspoken members of clergy, he has no problem per se with celebrating Mass, be it in "a mall, a school, a restaurant, or a basketball court."

"It's the Church's way of reaching out to people. It's the nature of the modern times, and if we have to celebrate Mass in a mall, so be it," added Bautista, a member of the Movie Television Review and Classification Board.

But what infuriates the outspoken priest is the fact that the practice is also being done at the SM chain of malls.

Bautista, who celebrates Sunday Masses in Magallanes in Makati City, is convinced that the mall's management, which has faced charges of unfair labor practices, should not allow Mass to be celebrated in its premises. (Lo refused to comment on Bautista's statement.)

What do the faithful say about the marriage between the commercial and the spiritual? Does it bother them that, for some, going to Mass has become just another errand in the to-do list?

Churchgoers never seem to mind the contradictions, and mall chapels, from Megamall to Shangri-la Plaza are always full of Sunday worshippers.

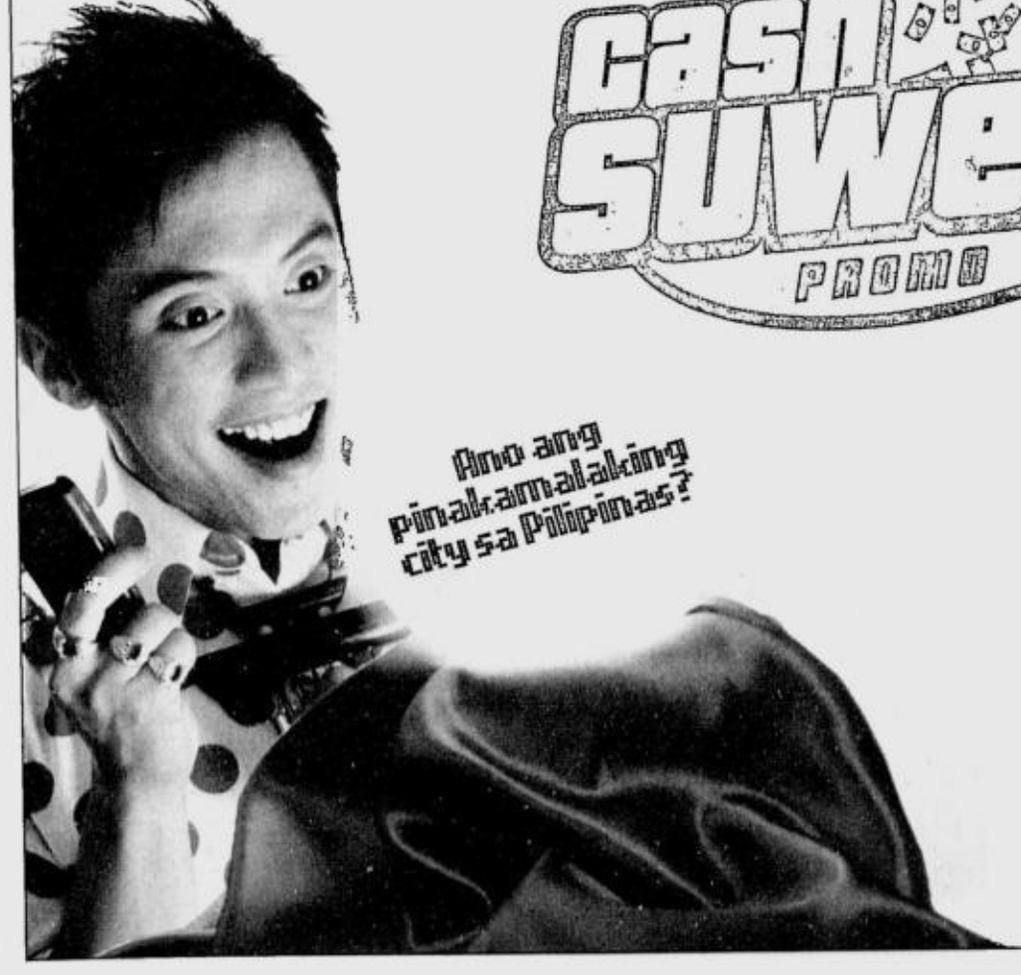
Lively homilies

Rey Malabarbas, 27, and a Pasig City resident, said he prefers to hear Mass at the mall because of the lively homilies. He noted that the mall preachers do not drive him to sleep and that their homilies are always grounded on real, personal lives.

Another regular mall churchgoer, Ella Napata, said she appreciates the service in the mall because it is convenient and the sermons are better than the ones told in her church. Apart from the Sunday Mass, Napata also attends the Wednesday novenas.

Both said there are always people who will consider going to Mass incidental to shopping. These people would just have to reckon with their conscience, they noted.

But at least they get to hear Mass, and that's the important thing, they added, and certainly better than not going at all.



Sali na sa

cash SUWERTE PROMO

Ipakita ang galing sa Trivia Game for a chance to win cash araw-araw!

Join the Trivia Game for a chance to win cash daily!
Just text PLAY to 232 P2.50/text

Sample question

Ano ang pinakamalaking city sa Pilipinas?
a) Manila
b) Davao
c) Cebu

To answer: Text QUIZ <answer> to 232 P2.50/text

QUIZ B

Text YES to 232

To track your chances of winning and receive featured content (logo, pic message, ringtone, etc.) daily for P2.50

See posters for details. Promo period: July 2 - Oct. 1, 2007. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3004. Series of 2007. For more details, please call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111 or text *888 (P1.00/message sent in excess of the free text allocation). Email us at customercare@smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

WOLFPAC

DAHIL SMART TAYO

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007

"WE'RE COUNTING ON THE PRESIDENT to present a purposeful strategy on OFWs. Sadly, she made no mention of this at all in her SONA. If we can't stop it, government might as well make sure that OFWs are directed to the best possible labor markets.
— LOREN LEGARDA, *July 24, 2007*

GLOBAL Pinoy

Editor Gerry Lirio

E-mail: pr_global_pinoy@inquirer.com.ph

Text us your feedback:
inquirer gp name/age/city/message
to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever work can be contracted to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

'I was raped in Kuwait'

By Emman Cena

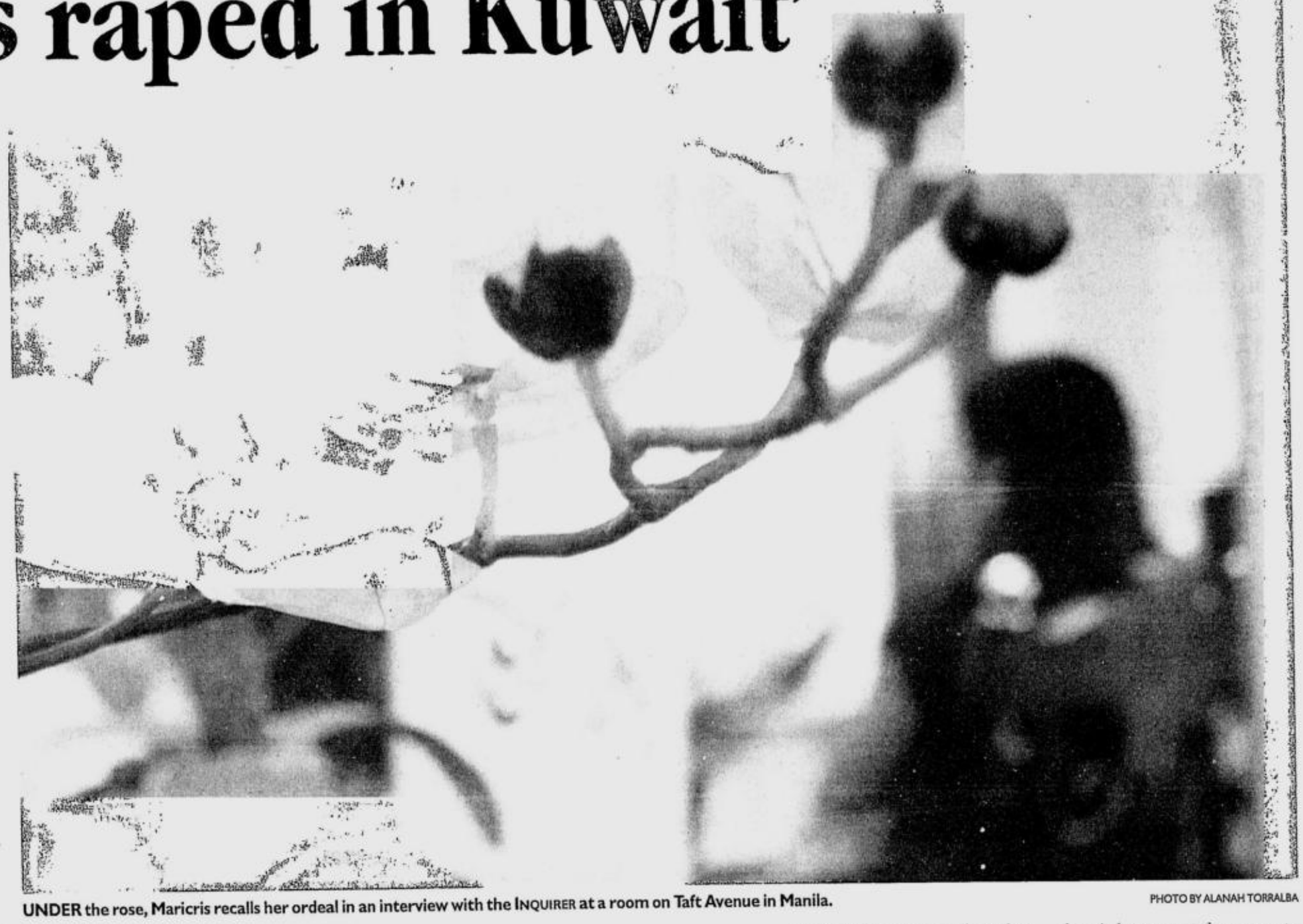
UP UNTIL THIS day, the Kuwaiti experience haunts her sleep. In fact, Maricris (not her real name) will never be back to Kuwait for the rest of her life. She says it was her experience last year in the Arab country that brought the biggest shock of her life.

But the fortitude Maricris exudes is awesome in that she found courage to come out and file charges against those who had wronged her.

Hers is a typical story of a young college girl from the province recruited to work as a domestic helper abroad but who unfortunately landed with an evil employer. She was allegedly maltreated and raped. To make things worse, the recruitment agency turned its back on her.

"I was near crazy. *Namanhid na ang buong katawan ko. Akala ko mamamatay na ako,* (I felt numb as if I would die)," she tells the INQUIRER.

"*Gusto ko lang mabigyan ng hustisya ang mga nagawa nila sa akin* (I just need justice for what they had done to me)," says the 24-year-old education student of Negros Occidental.



UNDER the rose, Maricris recalls her ordeal in an interview with the INQUIRER at a room on Taft Avenue in Manila.

PHOTO BY ALANAH TORRALBA

How it began

In an interview held with lawyer Bernardino Mortera, Maricris' counsel, the INQUIRER learned that administrative charges have been filed against Maiden's Way Overseas Manpower, the agency that sent Maricris, along with hundred others Filipinas, to the Middle East in December 2006.

The interview was arranged with the help of lawyer Roy Señeres, former ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, and his wife Minnie.

The INQUIRER also learned that the agency was featured in a local television network's investigative show for claims of alleged illegal recruitment last year.

Reached for comment, agency operator Mary Mae Victorina says Maricris was making up stories.

"It was Maricris who breached the contract. She's a big liar," Victorina says, adding that Maricris perfectly weaved in patches of the stories so she could get away with the contract.

In a contract signed by the two parties, Maricris says the agency was to be responsible for her for the period of six months. In their agreement, she would be sent to Kuwait free of charge and the agency would be paid through salary deduction.

> 'There were times when they would lock the fridge. I would scour the trash bin for leftovers. I felt so weak, but my employer would even ask me to undress before his seven children'

But the promises went pfft, Maricris says.

"They were preying on women from the provinces who were near illiterate so they could take advantage of them," she adds.

Maricris' unfortunate tale started in September 2006 when she applied at a job fair in Bacolod as cook, along with a couple of cousins who were hoping for a brighter life that jobs abroad could offer.

All-around nanny

"I didn't think of the risks involved abroad. All I wanted was to help my family," says the youngest of 14 children of a farmer and housewife from Negros.

Through the help of Maiden's Way, Maricris was sent to Manila for a two-month training and orientation.

The alleged "training" was actually held at the Victorina residence, the operator of the recruitment agency.

"*Daig pa namin ang mga katulong doon. Ikinukulong kame. Bawal lumabas at pumunta man lang sa mga kamag-anak. Yun daw ang totoong* training *upang makapunta sa* Kuwait," she says.

Maricris says she thought her struggle would end after the "training" when in fact the misery has just started.

She was sent to Kuwait not as a cook but as an all-around domestic helper for an Arab family of nine. She was offered 200 dinar (roughly P23,000) as monthly salary.

"The first two days of treatment were okay, but days after, they started to get evil," she recalls.

She lived with the employer's second wife and their seven children, all boys, in a condominium in Salmiyah, Kuwait.

As an all-around nanny, she did everything—cleaning, laundry, cooking and all household chores.

Her days started at 5 a.m. and ended at 3 a.m. On days when she had difficulty waking up, her employer would hit her with anything.

Locking the fridge

"They once hit me with a cooking pan when I had a hard time getting up because I was sick (*Pinukpok nila ako minsan ng kaldero nung hindi ako makabangon dahil may sakit ako*)," she says on the verge of tears.

"*Lahat utos. Akala nila* computer *ang katawan ko. Sisigaw silang lahat. Babatukan ako, pukpok ng sandok 'pag hindi tapos ang* work."

She would go to bed at 3 a.m. on most days after finishing ironing the clothes.

"There were also instances when they would lock the fridge so I could not eat. For three days, I would only drink water and scour the trash bin for leftovers," Maricris says.

"My employer would also ask me to undress in front of her seven children and instruct me to parade around the house. That's how crazy she was," she adds.

One of the seven children, a 26-year-old police officer, allegedly raped her twice when they had been left alone in the house.

"He would ask me to clean his room then he would punch and kick my legs so I wouldn't be able to get away. He would threaten to kill me should I report to police, who are his colleagues anyway."

Fearing that she'd get pregnant, the police officer would force her to take medicines a few weeks after the incidents.

One night in February last year, she finally escaped when the whole family was asleep.

"I ran out of the house with nothing at hand. I didn't even have money, papers, passport. All I needed was to get to the embassy and ask for help."

It took her two hours before an Indian cab driver took her to the Philippine Embassy.

At the embassy, Maricris says she tried to contact the agency to ask for help, to no success.

"They were going hands-off with my case since my employer belongs to a known powerful family in Kuwait. They didn't even subject me to medico-legal to prove I was raped and tortured. My hands were burned."

Through the help of the embassy, Maricris was sent home in March after two months inside the embassy.

Fighting for justice

To date, Maricris says she's trying to forget the misery she endured overseas. There is no way she will go back abroad after the trauma that she went through, she says.

"The case against the agency is ongoing. We have a good chance winning," her lawyer says.

"I will be fighting for this case. Only justice would give me a decent sleep," says Maricris who is now looking for a job here in the city.

But one good thing I got from the experience is that I learned to fight and be tough.

"I don't discourage people who hope to go abroad. But I could only say that the safest place is to be home."

Proposed US immigration bill failed twice in Senate

IMFO

Lourdes Santos Tancinco

A DAY PRIOR TO MY TRIP TO the Philippines in May 2007, the news was that the Bush Administration and the US Senate had struck a deal on legalizing the estimated 12 million undocumented aliens.

Coming as lightning and thunder to the immigrant community, it was a welcome development as it appeared then to be God's answer to the prayers of the 12 million illegal aliens in the US praying for legalization.

As the debate on the Senate Comprehensive Immigration Reform (CIR) bill started, it quickly became apparent that the supposed answer to the immigrant community's prayer turned out to be more of a penalty than an answer. The proposed CIR bill did not only affect the illegal immigrants who are currently in the US but also adversely affected US petitioners waiting for the visa petitions of their family members who are still outside the US. It contained poison pills that made it more a toxic solution than a curative pill.

On June 7, after our fundraising golf tournament for the Filipino World War II veterans, my husband approached me and relayed to me the news. He said that "something" was killed. I responded with a question as I thought that there was a murder being reported. "Who was killed?" I asked. He yelled and said: "The bill was killed. The Senate Immigration bill was defeated today!" I grinned thinking that this CIR bill is going nowhere except downhill. I expected the defeat. Not that I do not want a new CIR, but that it did contain too many unreasonable provisions unlikely to solve the broken system.

The Senate CIR bill (S.1348) as introduced in May 2007 is not actually going to fix the broken US immigration system. While it would provide employment authorization and travel documents to illegal aliens in the US, it would not provide a permanent legal status to these undocumented aliens until after all the family based backlog is cleared which may take several years. On the proposed guest worker program, the head of household will have to return to their homeland for a year after two years of staying and working in the US. This is called the "touchback" where they are required to leave the US first before they are renewed for work authorization and not permanent residency.

What will happen to the family members who are left in the US while the head of the household is out of the country for a year? Not only will there be separation, the fees that the alien has to pay range from $2,500 to $9,000. If the alien works only in the farm or small industries, it is impossible to raise this much money. In the meantime, while the head of household is out for a year, who will support the family?

During the eight years that the undocumented alien is holding an employment authorization document, there is no path for the undocumented to legalize permanently giving it the effect of a moratorium on the issuance of immigrant visas. And for those who are not able to file for legalization after eight years, their names are already in the system making them vulnerable to removal/deportation proceedings down the line.

The same effect is given to the proposed guest worker program where temporary workers will have to leave the US every two years to renew their work authorization.

There is also a proposal for a merit/point system in the filing of employment visas where individuals are scored based on their age, education, experience and English proficiency before they can obtain green card. The US employers will have no role in determining their own minimum requirements considering that the factors for the merit system are preset by the proposed regulations. This goes against the very common way of hiring employees where employers set the qualifications they want and then hire the employees they need.

As initially proposed, the Senate CIR bill also contains provisions to abolish the ability to petition family members who are: (1) adult children of US citizens, (2) adult children of green card holders, and (3) siblings of US citizens. These provisions of the bill will adversely affect a lot of Filipino families.

On June 18, a resurrected CIR bill (S.1639) was reintroduced by Sen. Edward Kennedy. Just like the first Senate CIR that died on June 7, it also contained some harsh provisions and, thus, Senate amendments were introduced and were being debated for a week. Finally, when the cloture vote failed on June 28, Senator H. Reid withdrew the bill from the Senate for the second time. According to Senator Reid, the 110th US Congress is only on its sixth months to a two year session and that there is still room to work on important immigration issues. If and when the new version of the Senate bill is released in the future, it is hoped that there is a balance among family, economy and national security and not just heavy on the latter. It should be one that values family while at the same time balancing it with need for foreign workers who contribute to the economy; one that fixes the broken US immigration system while also promoting national security.

Imfo stands for Immigration Information. Tancinco is a partner at the Tancinco Law Offices, based in San Francisco with offices in Makati, Philippines. She may be reached through e-mail at law@tancinco.com.

US readies $20-B arms deal with Saudi

WASHINGTON—THE UNITED States is readying a major arms package for Saudi Arabia with an eye to countering a changing threat from Iran, a senior US defense official said.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates is expected to discuss the US recommendations with the Saudis next week in a visit to the kingdom with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, the official said on Friday.

"We've been working very hard on the Saudi arms package, which we believe is critical to the overarching architecture that we believe we are going to need ... to deal with the changing strategic threat from Iran and other forces," the official said.

The official who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity said discussions with Congress on the arms package have just begun and that no announcements were expected during Gates' visit to Saudi Arabia.

"What there may be is discussion about what the administration is willing to go forwards with (and) ... what we would recommend to the Hill and others," she said, referring to Congress on Capitol Hill.

The Pentagon provided no details on the arms package, which will reportedly total $20 billion over the next decade.

But administration officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said it would include selling Saudi Arabia advanced weapons known as Joint Direct Attack Munitions, or JDAMs.

JDAM is a low-cost guidance kit converting existing unguided free-fall bombs into accurately guided "smart" weapons.

Munition equipped with such kits can attack simultaneously multiple targets in a coordinated strike by single or multiple aircraft.

JDAM weapons were extensively used by the United States in recent conflicts. More than 650 of them were dropped during the 1999 operation in Kosovo, more than 4,500 during Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan in 2002 and over 6,500 during the invasion of Iraq in March-April 2003, according to defense experts.

The package also will include new weapons for the United Arab Emirates, another US ally in the Persian Gulf, and both military and economic support to Egypt, the officials said.

Meanwhile, the Boston Globe reported in March that it is believed to include air and missile defense systems, advanced early warning radar aircraft, and light coastal combat ships.

The New York Times reported in April that the package had been delayed because of Israeli concerns over the sale to Saudi Arabia of certain precision guided munitions.

Gates and Rice are expected to emphasize US commitment to the region's security at a time when there is fierce debate at home of whether to withdraw US forces from Iraq.

Congress has the power to block such sales, but the White House is hoping to avoid a major fight on the issue. *AFP*

Japan's Abe makes final bid

TOKYO—JAPANESE PRIME MINister Shinzo Abe made a last-ditch effort to woo voters on Saturday ahead of an upper house election in which his ruling bloc looks set to lose its majority, a result that could cost him his job.

Media projections have forecast the ruling camp to fall short of securing a majority in Sunday's election, leading to a divided parliament and political paralysis that would give Abe little room to push ahead with his conservative agenda.

In a bid to turn things around and win the hearts of urban voters, many of whom are unaffiliated with any party, Abe went on a final stump tour in Tokyo along with Shintaro Ishihara, the capital's popular governor and former ruling party lawmaker.

"Will reform go ahead or will it go backwards?" Abe told a crowd of hundreds at a busy shopping and entertainment district in central Tokyo.

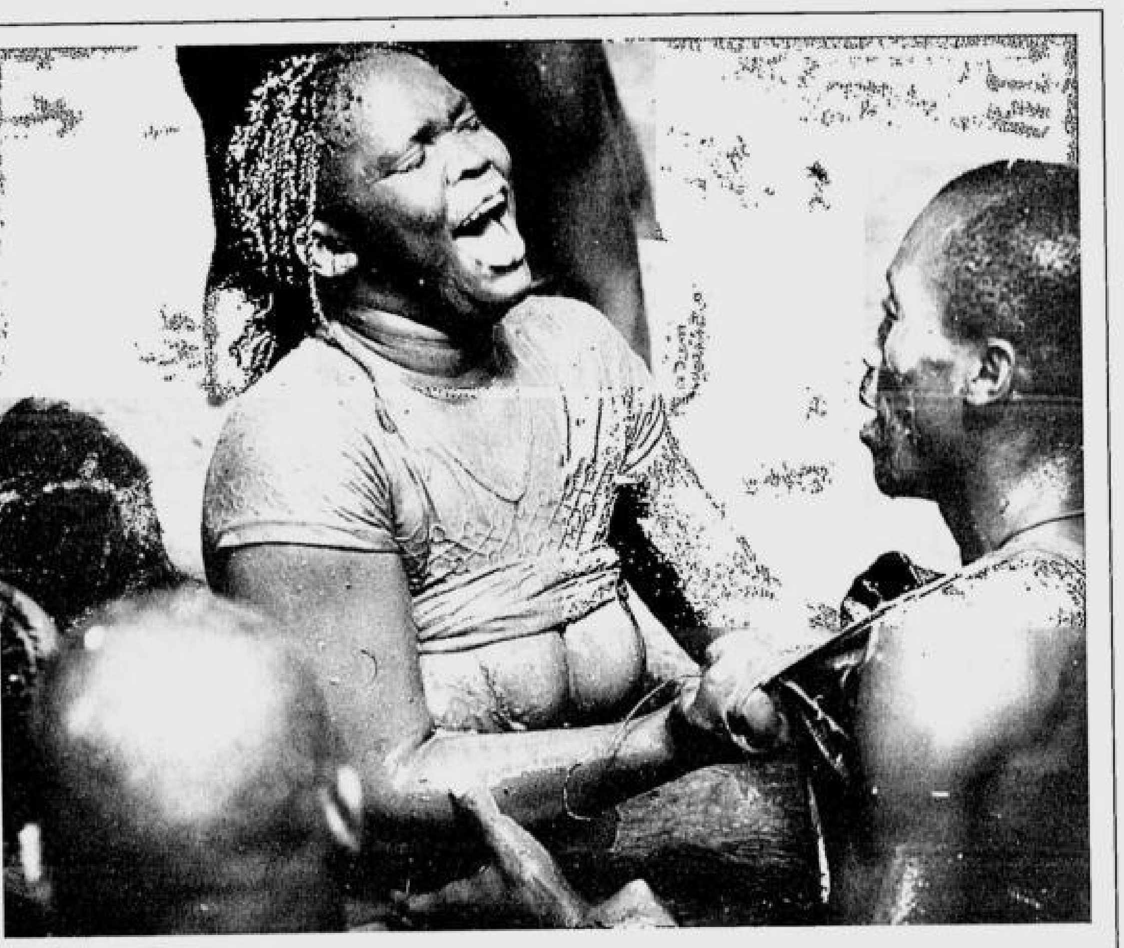
"The Democratic Party cannot advance reform," Abe, wearing a white shirt but no tie, said from top of a campaign van, referring to the main opposition party.

But some voters passing by did not agree.

"I'd like to see the ruling parties get a black mark. The government isn't functioning well, especially the Cabinet, and I think it's Abe's fault," said Shunichi Shoji, a 66-year-old white collar worker for a construction company.

"I'd like to see a change in government. We need to give the opposition a chance."

In the election, half of the 242 seats in the upper house will be contested, and Abe's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and its partner, New Komeito, need 64 seats to keep their majority. *Reuters*



VOODOO RITUAL
Voodoo believers covered in mud bathe in a sacred pool in Plaine du Nord, Haiti on July 24, during a Voodoo pilgrimage to pay homage to Ogou, the Voodoo god of war. Voodoo, which was brought to the island by slaves from West Africa, is a mix of African religions and Roman Catholicism. AP

French ex-PM probed over smear campaign

PARIS—FORMER FRENCH Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin was placed under formal investigation on Friday—a first step to possible criminal charges—over a smear campaign targeting President Nicolas Sarkozy, justice officials said.

Villepin was questioned for 50 minutes by two judges probing the so-called Clearstream affair, in which Sarkozy's name was wrongly linked in 2004 to an illegal bank account in Luxembourg.

The judges placed him under investigation for "complicity to make false accusations," as a result of new evidence suggesting that three years ago he might have actively encouraged the leaking of false information against Sarkozy.

At the time, the pair were bitter rivals for the forthcoming ruling party nomination in the presidential race.

The case against Villepin also includes "receiving stolen goods, breach of trust and complicity to use forged documents." The judges set bail at 200,000 euros ($270,000) and banned Villepin from making contact with former President Jacques Chirac, according to sources close to the investigation. The sources said he had appealed the bail terms.

Recent evidence in the case also implicates Chirac, Villepin's ally in the power-struggle with Sarkozy. Chirac has said he will not answer the judges' questions, claiming to be still covered by presidential immunity.

Villepin, whose office and home were searched by the judges earlier this month, denied breaking the law.

"I am anxious to restate this morning that at no point did I ask for an investigation into political figures, and at no moment did I partake in any political machination," Villepin said after being questioned.

"I acted in response to international threats. I acted in response to threats against our economic interests. That is strictly the context in which I acted. It was my duty as a minister," he said. *AFP*

US, India forge nuclear accord

WASHINGTON—THE UNITED States and India announced on Friday that they have adopted an operating agreement for a landmark nuclear deal but the pact still has to be cleared by a skeptical US Congress.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and her Indian counterpart Shri Pranab Mukherjee in a joint statement hailed the civilian nuclear agreement as a "historic milestone" in relations.

President George W. Bush said he looked forward to working with the Democratic-controlled Congress to implement the deal, saying it marked "another step" in deepening ties with India, which he called "a vital world leader."

Congress in December approved landmark legislation allowing US exports of civilian nuclear fuel and technology to India for the first time in 30 years, a move intended to reverse sanctions on the Asian giant for its nuclear tests.

But the operating agreement goes one step further, allowing India to reprocess spent fuel under safeguards by the global nuclear watchdog, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), said US Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns, the US pointman in the talks to frame the pact.

That right to reprocess spent US-sourced nuclear fuel has been given only to Japan and the European Union so far, and US lawmakers had expressed skepticism over safeguards needed to deter India from possibly diverting any nuclear material to its military weapons program.

Burns said that India had to first establish a new national nuclear reprocessing facility under strict safeguards and then the two countries would agree on a set of arrangements and procedures for such activity. *AFP*

Scientists back into electronic voting machines

COMPUTER SCIENTISTS from California universities have hacked into three electronic voting systems used in California and elsewhere in the nation and found several ways in which vote totals could potentially be altered, according to reports released on Friday by the state.

The reports, the latest to raise questions about electronic voting machines, came to light on a day when House leaders announced in Washington that they had reached an agreement on measures to revamp voting systems and increase their security.

The House bill would require every state to use paper records that would let voters verify that their ballots had been correctly cast and that would be available for recounts.

The House Majority Leader, Rep. Steny H. Hoyer, D-Md., and the original sponsor of the bill, Rep. Rush D. Holt, D-N.J., said it would require hundreds of counties with paperless machines to install backup paper trails by the presidential election next year while giving most states until 2012 to upgrade their machines further.

Critics of the machines said that some of the measures would be just stopgaps and that the California reports showed that security problems needed to be addressed more urgently.

The California reports said the scientists, acting at the state's request, had hacked into systems from three of the four largest companies in the business: Diebold Election Systems, Hart InterCivic and Sequoia Voting Systems.

Thousands of their machines in varying setups are in use.

The reports said the investigators had created situations for each system "in which these weaknesses could be exploited to affect the correct recording, reporting and tallying of votes."

Matthew A. Bishop, a professor of computer science at the University of California, Davis, who led the team that tried to compromise the machines, said his group was surprised by how easy it was not only to pick the physical locks on the machines, but also to break through the software defenses meant to block intruders. *NYT*

WORLDBRIEFS

Suicide bomber kills 14

ISLAMABAD—A suicide bomber targeting policemen killed 14 people near the Red Mosque in the Pakistani capital on Friday, as the reopening of the complex after this month's bloody army raid descended into violence. Policemen's caps and shoes lay alongside body parts at the scene of the blast in one of the leafy city's busiest bazaars, several hundred meters from the mosque, an AFP correspondent said. A senior security official speaking on condition of anonymity told AFP that 14 people had died, at least half of them policemen, and more than 70 were wounded. *AFP*

27 dead in India floods

GUWAHATI, INDIA—At least 27 people have died and nearly three million hit by floods triggered by torrential monsoon rains in eastern India, officials said on Saturday. Fourteen people were swept away in swirling floods in eastern Bihar state that wreaked havoc with most rivers running in spate, officials said. Twelve deaths occurred in worst-hit Bhagalpur district while two people were killed in Darbhanga and Sitamarhi districts, the Press Trust of India quoted Bihar relief officials as saying in state capital Patna. Landslips and flash-floods killed 13 more people in Assam and Meghalaya and displaced around 750,000 people in the two adjoining states, officials said. *AFP*

3 Nato deaths

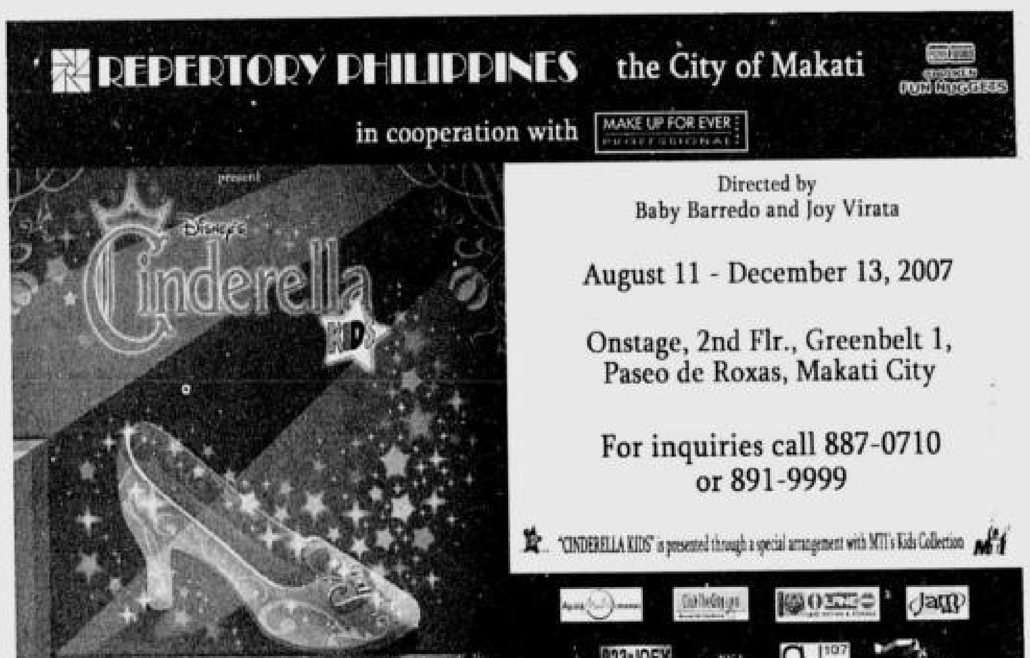
KABUL—Three Nato soldiers and an Afghan trooper were killed along with several insurgents in Afghanistan on Friday, while a helicopter gunship made a forced landing, the alliance said. The deaths among the troops from the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force bring the number of foreign troops killed in Afghanistan this year to 124. "I can confirm the death of two ISAF soldiers in eastern Afghanistan today (Friday)," a spokesperson in the ISAF headquarters in Kabul said. An official statement from the military force said a third Nato soldier was killed in the south of the country. *AFP*

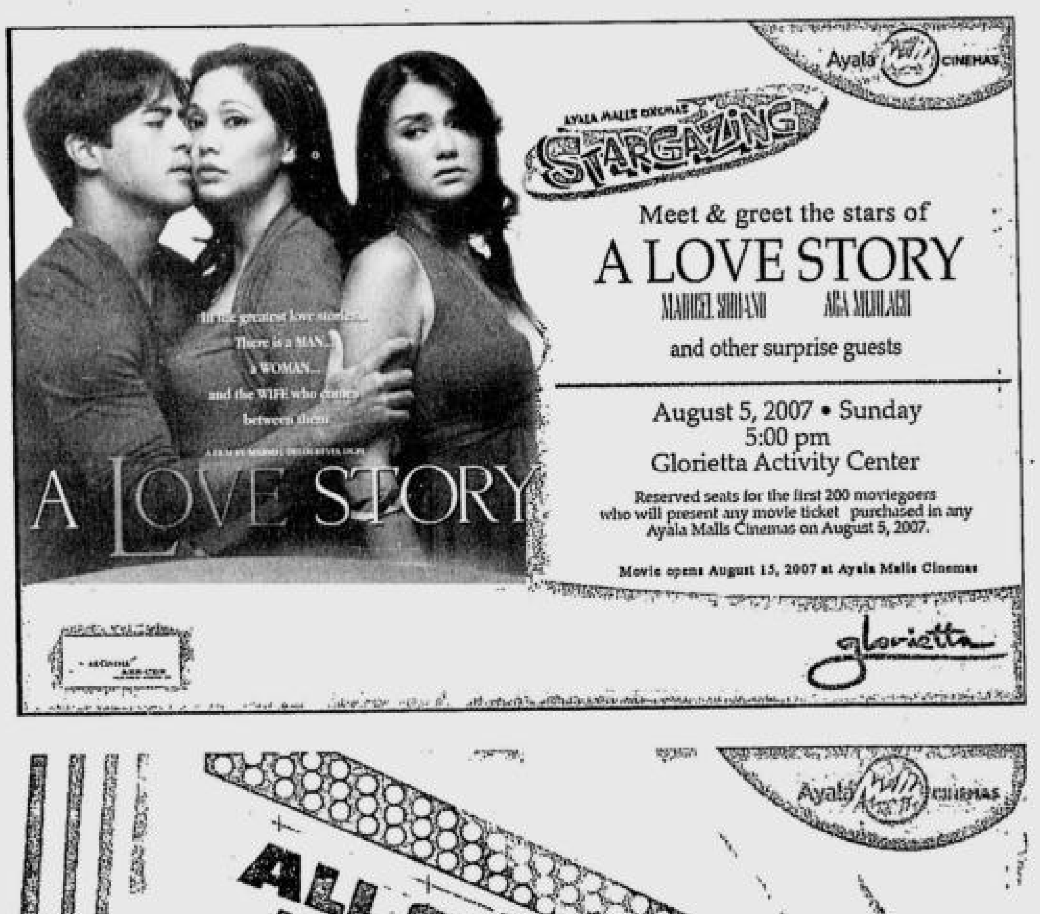
Cop in leak jailed

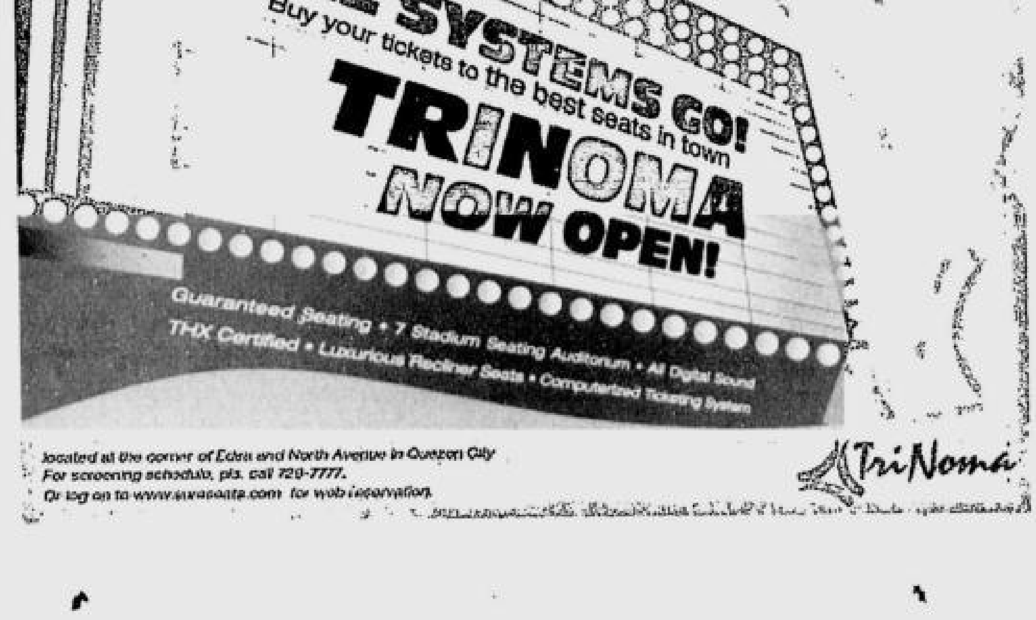
LONDON—A British police civilian worker was jailed for eight months on Friday for leaking a secret anti-terrorism intelligence report warning of massive al-Qaida attacks on the West. Thomas Lund-Lack, 59, a retired detective inspector with London's Metropolitan Police, admitted at a hearing last month to a charge of wilful misconduct in public office by disclosing secret documents to the Sunday Times. According to the newspaper, the report, compiled by Britain's Joint Terrorism Analysis Centre (JTAC), notably warned that al-Qaida leaders in Iraq were planning large-scale attacks on the West with Iranian support. *AFP*

US, Russia meet on missile shield

WASHINGTON—Experts from the United States and Russia are to meet on Monday to evaluate Moscow's proposal for a joint anti-missile base to counter a planned US missile shield based in Poland and the Czech Republic. The talks would also cover the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, a key European arms control accord from which Russia withdrew recently, US officials said on Friday. "We hope that the meeting would be productive and Russia and the US can agree to some serious cooperation on missile defense against common threats," a US official told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity. *AFP*







The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

DEPUTY Nasa Administrator Shana Dale makes a statement to reporters at Nasa headquarters in Washington on Friday, July 27, regarding a report that Nasa let astronauts fly drunk on at least two occasions. AP

US solons to probe Nasa over boozing astronauts

WASHINGTON—THE US SPACE AGENCY FACED a full-blown crisis on Saturday as US lawmakers promised to probe how Nasa allowed astronauts to fly missions while drunk as well as the sabotage of in-flight computers.

The US House of Representatives Science and Technology committee called an oversight hearing for September, after a Nasa report found astronauts had shown up to work drunk.

House Space and Aeronautics subcommittee chair Mark Udall warned that the report was a "wake-up" call.

"We need to understand what happened and why, whether anyone is going to be held accountable, and what the agency is going to do to fix these apparently deep-seated problems," he said.

The report released by Nasa found "heavy use of alcohol" inside the standard 12-hour "bottle to throttle" abstinence period for flight crew.

Nasa has recently regained its confidence after the 2003 breakup of Columbia with seven aboard, and years of testing to prove the reliability of its shuttle program, as well as its management procedures.

However, in February, Nasa's reputation was sullied again when astronaut Lisa Nowak allegedly tried to kidnap a woman dating another astronaut.

In the wake of Nowak's arrest, Nasa set up an internal panel to review astronaut health, and was handed reports of astronaut drinking.

"That's not the 'right stuff' as far as I'm concerned," said Bart Gordon, chair of the House of Representatives science and technology committee, alluding to the book and 1983 film about early Nasa crews, "The Right Stuff." Air Force physician Richard Bachmann, who authored the report, told reporters one drinking incident came ahead of a shuttle mission that was eventually delayed.

The astronauts then wanted to fly on a T-38 supersonic jet used by Nasa, he said, without giving more detail.

The second case involved a Russian Soyuz mission bound for the International Space Station (ISS), Col. Bachmann said.

Bachmann said there is "no way to know if they were isolated incidents or the top of large iceberg." Nasa said: "Both flight surgeons and astronauts identified some episodes of heavy use of alcohol by astronauts in the immediate preflight period which has led to flight safety concerns." *AFP*

US Congress passes bill to counter terror

WASHINGTON—THE US Congress on Friday sent President George W. Bush a bill implementing key recommendations of the independent probe into the Sept. 11 attacks in 2001.

The measure requires the introduction of a system to screen all cargo loaded onto passenger jets within three years, improves airport and port security, and hands out grants to protect against terror strikes to US cities based on risk.

The Democratic-led Senate led the way by passing the bill by 85 votes to eight on Thursday night, and the House of Representatives followed suit on Friday, by 371 votes to 40.

Bush will get the law three years after the independent commission on the Sept. 11 attacks delivered its report.

Passage of the bill had been held up in the Senate by a prolonged standoff with Republicans over collective bargaining rights for airport security screeners.

The bill's other provisions include 100 percent screening within five years of maritime cargo before it is loaded on ships in foreign ports bound for the United States.

The measure also calls for greater distribution of homeland security grants for states and high-risk urban areas based on risk of terrorism, while still ensuring that all states have funds available for basic preparedness. *AFP*

Japan's agriculture minister accused of financial abuses

TOKYO—THE LAST PERSON whose face, bandaged or not, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe probably wanted to see on Friday was his agriculture minister's.

Two days before a parliamentary election that Abe's Liberal Democratic Party is expected to lose, fresh revelations about his scandal-ridden agriculture minister emerged, reminding voters of the accusations of corruption in Abe's 10-month-old government.

On Friday, the Japanese news media reported that the minister, Norihiko Akagi, had double reported, and was reimbursed twice, for expenses totaling $1,600. They showed copies of receipts that he—accused of submitting phony expenses in the hundreds of thousands of dollars—had adamantly refused to release.

Already mistrusted by voters, Akagi became the object of national ridicule last week when he appeared, unshaven, at a Cabinet meeting with a big bandage on his left cheek and a smaller one on his forehead. With the same stubbornness he had shown about the receipts, he refused to explain the reason for the bandages on what became the ungainly face of Abe's administration.

"Please don't worry—it's nothing," he repeated a dozen times as reporters asked about the bandages.

His non-answer naturally fueled speculation in the news media and political circles. A classic case of shingles, some said. Punishment from his father for bringing shame on the family, others said.

Akagi claimed more than $1 million in expenses over 16 years for a political office he supposedly used in his parents' home. His parents told reporters their house had not been used as an office for their son in years. In Japan, politicians can receive reimbursements from the government for general office costs, like utilities or postage.

Despite Abe's continued backing, Akagi has become the least trusted member of the Cabinet, according to opinion polls. With presumably few invitations to appear alongside lawmakers campaigning for Sunday's election, Akagi went on a trip to China this week.

On Thursday, he said he felt dizzy and would have to extend his stay in China indefinitely. But he returned home on Friday, and managed to avoid throngs of reporters at Narita International Airport. *New York Times News Service*

AMD 64 Opteron

Save enough energy to boil 300 cups of coffee every day.

The HP ProLiant DL365 isn't just a server, it's a saver too. Powered by Second-Generation AMD Opteron™ processors, it uses 30% less energy* by optimising performance-per-watt with power-on-demand capacities yet packs the same performance you expect from HP ProLiant. Crank up capacity even further with an HP SAS 2.5 inch Hard Disk Drive which saves 50% energy* compared to a 3.5 inch disk drive. And with the HP ProLiant Essentials Server Migration Pack (Physical to ProLiant Edition) you can transfer 50GB of data over a 1GB isolated network in just three simple steps and 90 minutes* flat. Simply click and watch it all migrate. While you sit back and sip one of those coffees.

Why run the risk? Upgrade your support level with HP Care Pack Services to keep your business up and running with guaranteed same-day response.

P260,000 | HP PROLIANT DL365 SERVER

- Second-Generation AMD Opteron™ processor Model 2220 (2.8 Ghz)
- 4 GB PC2-5300 DDR2 DIMMS (667MHz)
- Embedded NC373i Multifunction Gigabit NIC
- Smart Array P400i RAID Controller (RAID 0/1/5/6/)
- (2) HP 72GB 10K SAS 2.5 Hot Plug Hard Drives
- Integrated Lights-Out Advanced Pack graphical remote management

FREE: HP iPAQ Pocket PC rw6828
Promo duration: June 15 to July 31, 2007 only.

1-800-1441-6688
or (632) 867-3557
ph.contact@hp.com
www.iloveproliant.com.ph

hp

Terms and Conditions: Claim HP iPAQ from HP Authorized Reseller • HP iPAQ will be available 30 days from end of promo duration.
©2007 Hewlett-Packard Development Company, LP. All rights reserved. AMD, the AMD arrow logo, AMD Opteron and combinations thereof, are trademarks of Advanced MicroDevice, Inc.
*View all sources and proof points at hp.com/xx/energysaving ** HP ProLiant DL385, DL365 or DL145 Server

Korean hostages alive in Afghanistan, says Taliban

GHAZNI, AFGHANISTAN—THE remaining 22 South Koreans held hostage in Afghanistan are alive, a Taliban spokesperson said on Friday, and the group will not set further deadlines as it negotiates with the government on freeing them.

A government official also said the Christian volunteers, whose leader was killed two days ago by their Taliban captors, were alive, adding an Afghan delegation was in talks with the militants.

"They are alive and fine," Munir Mangal, a deputy interior minister who also heads an Afghan team trying to secure the freedom of the hostages, told reporters in Ghazni. Medicines had been sent for some of the captives who are ill, he added.

Taliban spokesperson Qari Mohammad Yousuf said the government had assured the group it would release eight members of the Taliban as part of an exchange deal for the freedom of a similar number of the hostages.

"They are alive. The talks are going on and we are not giving further deadlines for the government has assured us that it wants to resolve the issue through talks," he told Reuters by phone from an undisclosed location.

Earlier, he had accused the government of "killing time and playing tricks" and had said the Taliban would kill the captives if rebel prisoners were not released by the Afghan government by Friday noon.

On Wednesday, the Taliban killed the leader of the 23 volunteers they snatched last week from a bus on the main highway in Ghazni, which lies to the southwest of the capital Kabul.

But several previous deadlines have passed without them carrying out their threats to kill others.

South Korea's chief presidential national security adviser, Baek Jong-chun, arrived in Afghanistan on Friday to step up efforts to free the hostages, an Afghan official said.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has pledged not to swap prisoners for hostages after being criticized for releasing five Taliban from jail in March in exchange for an Italian reporter.

The president and ministers have remained silent throughout the latest hostage ordeal.

One German and four Afghans snatched separately are also still being held hostage by the Taliban.

The past 18 months has seen rising violence in Afghanistan, with daily clashes between Taliban insurgents and Afghan and foreign troops. *Reuters*

Website: www.inquirer.net/sports

Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Assistant Editor Francis T. J. Ochoa

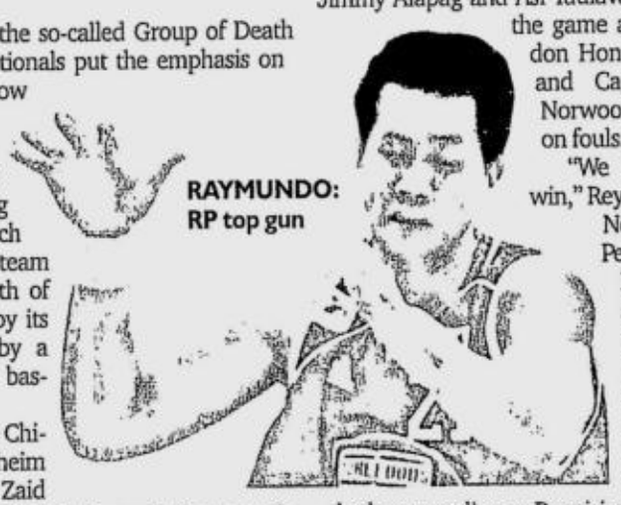
Jittery RP five yields to Iran

By Francis T. J. Ochoa

TOKUSHIMA, JAPAN—There are roughly 1,111 miles from here to Beijing. Don't blame Team Philippines, though, if it feels that the distance has been stretched exponentially.

Iran put the San Miguel-RP squad through three quarters of hell and then held off a late charge by the Filipinos to hammer out a 75-69 victory Saturday at the start of the Fiba-Asia men's basketball championship at the Asty Tokushima.

As hostilities in the so-called Group of Death kicked off, The Nationals put the emphasis on death as it is now faced with do-or-die situations in their next two games, starting with Sunday's match against a Chinese team stripped of its myth of invincibility both by its own doing and by a fine-tuned Jordan basketball machine.



RAYMUNDO: RP top gun

Jordan ripped China, 78-65, as Raheim Wright and Zaid Alkhas formed a potent 1-2 punch that complemented a defense that left the second-tier players from a country that should have been the overwhelming favorite in this Beijing Olympics qualifier winded and bewildered.

But not half as stunned as a Philippine team that didn't know what hit it.

"For some reason, we could not shoot the ball well," said national coach Chot Reyes. "We shot 20 percent from the field, Iran shot 40 percent. That, basically was the story."

"We lost to the Philippines by 10 points in the Jones Cup and I think we learned our lesson there," said Iran mentor Toroman Rijko, whose wards joined Jordan at 1-0 in the hunt for the two quarterfinal berths in their group.

The Philippines and China were at 0-1, although the Chinese do not have to perform well here as they are already seeded into the quadrennial meet by virtue of being the Olympic host, thus the country's decision to field its second team.

"We didn't give their outside players a chance to play as well as they played in Taipei [in the Jones Cup]," Rijko added.

The Iran defense shackled Mark Caguioa and Danny Seigle, the team's top two scorers, to a combined four-of-23 performance.

With Mohammad Nikkhah taking the lead and with support from Aidin Nekkhah, Iran went on a 9-0 run to start the third period to erect a 39-25 lead. Surprisingly, Reyes did not even attempt to stop the bleeding with a timeout.

GAMES TODAY

(*Asty Tokushima*)

9 a.m.—HK vs Syria

11:15 a.m.—Indonesia vs Qatar

1:30 p.m.—Taipei vs Korea

3:45 p.m.—Japan vs Lebanon

6 p.m.—Philippines vs China

8:15 p.m.—Jordan vs Iran

(*Tokushima Gym*)

9 a.m.—India vs Kazakhstan

11:15 p.m.—Kuwait vs UAE

But that was not the only knock in the Filipinos game: They turned the ball over 17 times, bungled easy layups, dunks and open jumpers and simply could not shake off the opening-game jitters that hounded their offense. They lost Seigle, Jimmy Alapag and Asi Taulava to injuries late in the game and watched Dondon Hontiveros get ejected and Caguioa and Gabe Norwood leave the court on fouls.

"We didn't deserve to win," Reyes said.

Not even when Mick Pennisi, Alapag and Kerby Raymundo sparked a fourth-quarter rally that fanned a flicker of hope for the Philippines. Trailing by 17 late in the third, the Nationals suddenly came alive as Pennisi and Alapag hit their triples, opening up the lane for a predatory Raymundo, who wound up leading the Philippines with 15 points.

His last points—two free throws—trimmed the deficit to just a point, 69-68, and the Philippines was just one stop from turning the game around when things suddenly came unhinged.

Greek referee N. Zavlanos whistled a technical on the bench for supposedly heckling and Mohammad Nikkhah sealed the deal with free throws that made it 71-68, 57 ticks remaining.

San Miguel-RP moved to within two points, but Moosa Nabipoor, who played just six minutes, scored his only two points on a dunk that had the walls collapsing on the Filipinos, 73-69, 24 ticks to play.

In other games, Chinese Taipei defeated Syria, 90-66, after trailing 35-37 at halftime. Qatar crushed India, 106-49, while Kazakhstan routed Indonesia 107-53.

Host Japan also got off to a big start, leading by 36 at one point in the third period before finishing off the United Arab Emirates in convincing fashion, 109-66.

The scores:

IRAN 75—M. Nikkhah 25, Davari 14, A. Nikkhah 12, Kamrany 10, Amini 5, Ehadadi 3, Nabipoor 2, Eslamieh 2, Doraghi 1, Sahakian 1.

SAN MIGUEL-RP 69—Raymundo 15, Alapag 12, Seigle 8, Caguioa 7, Taulava 6, Pennisi 6, Hontiveros 5, Norwood 4, Williams 3, Helterbrand 3, Ritualo 0, Menk 0.

Quarters: 19-14, 30-25, 51-36, 75-69

Jordan sows fear by routing China

By Francis T.J. Ochoa

TOKUSHIMA, JAPAN—THE enemy has a new face as far as the Philippine campaign here is concerned.

In front of the studying gazes of the San Miguel-RP squad coaching staff, Jordan established itself as the team to beat—at least in the Group of Death—following a clinical defensive display that led to a 78-65 dismantling of pre-tournament favorite and defending champion China Saturday at the start of the Fiba Asia men's basketball tournament at the Asty Tokushima.

ALKHAS

Rasheim Wright, the MVP in the recent William Jones Cup that the Jordanians also topped, scored 31 points, joining hands with Zaid Alkhas in a second-half tear that left a bewildered Chinese B-squad winded.

Alkhas, part of the 1996 Jordan youth squad that buried a dagger in the heart of the RP boys' squad featuring the likes of Romel Adducul and Danny Ildefonso, scored 22 points, including 12 in the last two periods where he and Wright provided an offensive show that failed to mask the obvious.

"We won it with our defense," said Jordan coach Mario Palma.

"We won the William Jones with our defense and we showed again we were a good defensive team," said the Brazilian mentor. "We studied [China] well. We knew what they would do and we defended them well. We killed completely their outside shots and we stopped their fastbreaks."

Nationals' commitment

TOKUSHIMA, JAPAN—If only they could speak their way to the Olympics, the players making up the San Miguel-RP team would have already booked a ticket to Beijing.

After the cut was made, the Nationals got together for an impromptu, informal powwow at a nondescript hotel lobby to reaffirm their commitment to the country's cause a day before plunging into action against Iran.

"Hearing their words made the hairs in the body stand," said PBA commissioner Eala, who was one of the few officials present when the players got together. "It was an emotional talk, a meeting filled with passion."

The meeting was held after Chot Reyes, na-

JORDAN/ A26

SUN CELLULAR

Fixed Load Plan

Bigay ni Daddy ang baon na load.

Bigay naman ng Sun ang camera phone!*

It's easier to give cellphone allowance with Sun's Fixed Load Plan.

MONTHLY LOAD ₱250

Nokia 1112 Speaking Alarm Clock

Philips S220 Color Display w/ FM Radio

LG KG271 Color Display w/ FM Radio

MONTHLY LOAD ₱350

Sony Ericsson K310i Camera Phone Video Recording

Nokia 2610 MMS E-mail Capable

LG KG220 Camera Phone w/ Multi-shot Feature

Philips S660 Camera Phone MP3 Player

Nokia 2310 Color Display w/ FM Radio

Also available MONTHLY LOAD ₱600

- Get a FREE prepaid phone with your existing postpaid line.**
- Just choose from a monthly*** fixed load of ₱250, ₱350 or ₱600 which will be loaded into your child's prepaid account.
- The load will automatically be charged to your bill.
- Enjoy as many Fixed Load Plan accounts as you want.****

Plus you can add more load as needed via any of our Prepaid Reload Services!

* Available only for a Monthly Load of ₱350 and a Monthly Load of ₱600.

** For non-Sun subscribers, simply bring valid I.D. and latest competitor bill equivalent to or of higher value than the plan being applied for. If competitor bill is not available, bring proof of billing and proof of income.

*** For 24 months.

**** Subject to evaluation.

Hurry to The Sun Shop now!

24/7 OVERLOAD UNLIMITED · 24/7 TEXT UNLIMITED · DAYLITE CALL & TEXT UNLIMITED

Hotline: 395-8000 • www.suncellular.com.ph

SUN CELLULAR

Better network, better value.

Archers file protest; decision out tomorrow

By Jasmine W. Payo

DE LA SALLE OFFICIALLY placed under protest yesteday the Archers' recent loss to fierce rival Ateneo Blue Eagles in the UAAP men's basketball competition.

League officials vowed to issue a "quick decision" over La Salle's contention that Ateneo fielded foreign players Kirk Long and Zion Laterre at the same time in the Thursday showdown where the Eagles outlasted the Archers, 80-77, in overtime.

La Salle requested for an "investigation" that will include "a check of all tapes/video footages of ABS-CBN and a confirmation with the table officials as to the circumstances surrounding those moments."

"Ateneo committed a violation of Rule IX, the rule on no two foreigners playing at the same time," La Salle noted in an official letter signed by Archers coach Franz Pumaren and endorsed by La Salle board representative Bro. Bernard S. Oca, FSC.

"We will deal with it by Monday," said UAAP president Fr. Ermito de Sagon, noting that the complaint will be turned over to league commissioner Ed Cordero and the technical committee.

"If the school (La Salle or Ateneo) is not satisfied with the decision of the commissioner's office, that's the time they can bring it up to the board."

Teams are allowed a maximum of two foreign players, but league rule states that only one of them is allowed to play at any given time.

The 6-foot-3 Laterre is a veteran Australian forward, while the 6-foot-1 Long is an American rookie guard.

Cordero said the "touchy topic" will be settled early next week.

"We have to review the tape, interview the table officials and look at the pertinent rules," said Cordero. "There's no rush since it's not affecting the succeeding games. We can take our time, but in my end, we want to finish this right away."

In La Salle's own game tape review, Laterre was inside the court when the game barker announced that Long will come in as a substitute for Jai Reyes with 4:49 minutes left in the second quarter.

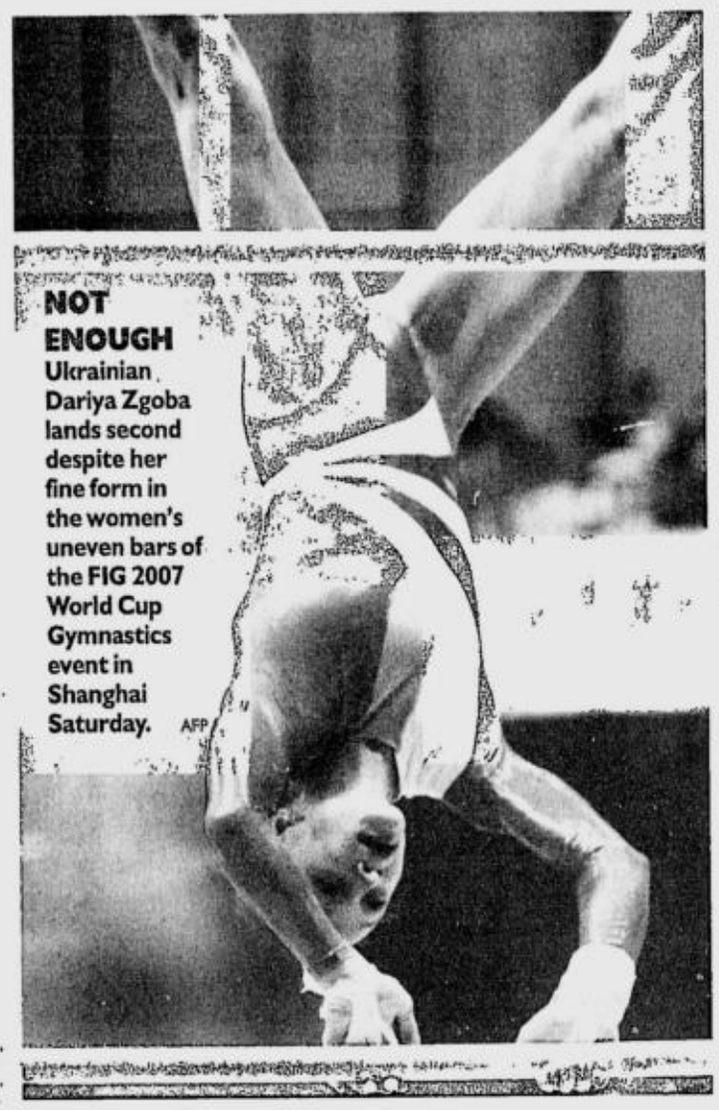
As play resumed with the Archers dribbling down court, Long went back to the bench, while Reyes rushed inside the court.

The referees called a technical foul at the 4:33 mark as Reyes entered the court without permission from the officials' table.

"They realized their mistake and tried to remedy the situation, although the substitution was not made properly," the La Salle letter stated.

But Ateneo had its own version of the disputed game sequence.

"We discussed it, we reviewed the tape, we did not see them play together at the same time," said Ateneo board representative Ricky Palou.



NOT ENOUGH Ukrainian Dariya Zgoba lands second despite her fine form in the women's uneven bars of the FIG 2007 World Cup Gymnastics event in Shanghai Saturday. AFP

Warriors score No. 5; NU rises

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
2 pm.—UST vs La Salle (Srs)
4 p.m.—Ateneo vs FEU (Srs)

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE UNBEATEN UNIVERSITY OF THE East Warriors got some early tongue-lashing for taking the University of the Philippines Maroons lightly.

That quickly fired up the Warriors, who rolled on to a 97-66 crushing of the winless Maroons for their fifth straight victory in the UAAP men's basketball competition yesterday at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

James Martinez shot 17 points in the first half on 5-of-6 shooting from beyond the arc to quickly douse the Maroons' spirited 7-1 start.

"We had a bad start and I told them that we can't make UP feel confident," said UE coach Dindo Pumaren. "We recovered right away."

Earlier, the National University Bulldogs cruised to a 91-76 triumph over the Adamson Falcons to improve to 3-3.

Raymond Aguilar, a transferee from San Sebastian, posted a double-double effort of 18 points and 11 rebounds as the Bulldogs recovered from two straight setbacks.

Edwin Asoro added 13, while Cyrus Malagueño drilled all his 12 markers from three-point range for the Bulldogs.

Adamson remained winless in five outings.

Martinez finished with a game-high 23 points and dished out five assists in just 19 minutes of action for the Warriors. The Warriors shot a season-high 39 points from three-point range, overshadowing the Bulldogs' 36-point record just hours earlier.

The scores:

First Game

NU 91—Aguilar 18, Asoro 13, Malagueño 12, Fernandez 10, Salvado 9, Catamora 9, Lingao-Lingao 6, Jahnke 4, Garcia 3, Dela Cruz 3, Ponferrada 2, Baloran 2, Galapon 0, Terso 0.

ADAMSON 76—Cabahug 30, Canuday 18, Alvarez 6, Margallo 5, Gorospe 4, Gonzalgo 4, Dela Paz 2, Cañada 2, Yambot 2, Hugnatan 2, Colina 1, Lozada 0, Santos 0.

Quarters: 23-15, 44-32, 64-50, 91-76

Second Game

UE 97—Martinez 23, Bandaying 14, Llagas 12, Thiele 10, Cañizares 10, Fampulme 9, Borboran 8, Arellano 7, Gregorio 2, Lingganay 1, Reyes 1, Etrone 0, Acuña 0, Espiritu 0.

UP 66—De Asis 12, Lopez 10, Rivera 8, Serios 8, Co 7, Gamboa 4, Reyes 4, Epres 4, Wong 3, Marfori 2, Dela Victoria 2, Rosales 2, Hipolito 0, Agbayani 0.

Quarters: 30-20, 58-40, 78-49, 97-66

James' ouster from RP five saddens Kris

IN HUDDLE

Beth Celis

I CAN IMAGINE how disappointed Kris Aquino (Yap) must be, not finding her husband's name in the final lineup of the RP team.

More than James, I know that it was Kris who had been most excited and enthusiastic when James was invited to join the national team.

"I hope James makes the final cut," I distinctly remember Kris' text message at the time.

* * *

Well that was the unofficial report—that James would be in the lineup—before the team left for Tokushima, Japan, to compete in the Fiba Asia Men's Championship that will determine the other qualifier for the Beijing Olympics in addition to China.

As host, China is guaranteed an Olympic slot whether or not it wins the title. If China wins, the runner-up also goes to the Olympics.

* * *

Funny but it was even James who was consoling wife Kris when he broke the news to her.

James told Kris in a text message not to be too sad because he (James) was okay. He had taken the decision well, "like a man" as Kris put it.

"But I'd be lying if I told you I'm happy. Of course I'm disappointed because I was the one who really encouraged James to accept the invitation, although we were both aware right from the start that there were no guarantees he'd be taken in."

* * *

If there is one person who is even more disappointed than Kris and James, it is former President Cory Aquino who is a bigger basketball fan than her daughter.

"My mom got sad when she heard the news because it meant a lot to her for James to be part of the team that would represent our country," said Kris who was shooting a pampers commercial with son Baby James when the news reached her yesterday.

"She even called him before his flight to wish him good luck."

* * *

As of noon yesterday, the De la Salle Green Archers were still determined to put the game against Ateneo last Thursday under protest.

"I understand DLSU representative to the UAAP board Chuck Buenaventura has already informed the UAAP of the protest," said DLSU team manager Terry Capistrano.

DLSU has accused Ateneo of fielding in two foreign players—Kirk Long and Zion Later—at the same time in the second quarter of the game which went into overtime and eventually won by the Blue Eagles, 80-77.

While each team is allowed two foreign players in the lineup, only one is allowed to play at a time.

* * *

"We did not violate any rule," said Ateneo coach Norman Black. "Kirk Long and Zion Later never played together as the tapes will show."

Norman said the Blue Eagles only had four players on the court when play resumed following what should have been a substitution.

"That's the reason we were slapped a technical," said Norman. "We only had four players inside the court. Kirk never entered the court."

* * *

Will Alex Compton continue to play as an import for the Welcoat Dragons next year?

Under a new provision to be adopted by the PBA next season, Welcoat may be having second thoughts this time around.

According to outgoing chairman Ricky Vargas, the two teams finishing last in the All-Filipino conference next season will be allowed two imports each (the rest only one import each), in an effort to balance the strength of the ballclubs.

Olympians, Hunters post 3rd straight win

GAMES TODAY (*UM Gym*)
12:30 p.m.—San Sebastian Cavite vs St. Clare (jrs)
2 p.m.—Holy Angel vs San Sebastian Cavite (srs)
3:30 p.m.—Holy Angel vs CEU (w)
5 p.m.—UM vs AMA (jrs)

By Marc Anthony Reyes

WINNING IS BECOMING A HABIT FOR both STI and New Era in the National Athletics Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities men's basketball competition.

The STI Olympians and the New Era Hunters, raring to get the respect they deserve in the league, defeated their respective rivals yesterday to remain unbeaten at the NEU Gym.

It was win No. 3 for both teams whose closest brush with the title was a finals appearance last year for STI, and a Final Four stint for New Era.

STI is leaving no doubt about its desire to clinch the title that slipped from its hands last year, as it rolled over Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Pasay, 86-60.

The 2006 season runner-up to AMA, STI once again showcased its powerhouse roster led by Raymond Tiongco, Dexter Micutuan and Howard Flor, who all turned in double-digit performances for the Olympians.

JR Casulla led the Eagles with 15 points but he could not do enough to save PLP from falling to its third straight defeat.

Earlier, New Era banked on its starters to defeat University of Makati, 93-72.

With five players – Jeff de Guzman, Charmel Alastre, Jan Michael Ocampo, Prudencio de Guzman and Mel Pepito – scoring in double-digits, the Hunters dealt the Hardy Herons their second straight setback.

De Guzman topscored with 20 points, backed by Alastre and Ocampo who both had 17 markers. De Guzman and Pepito contributed 13 and 12 points, respectively.

FIRST GAME

NEU 93 – J. De Guzman 20, Alastre 17, Ocampo 17, R. De Guzman 13, Pepito 12, Castillo 7, Lapid 5, Abalos 2, Domingo 0, Sonsona 0, Luna 0, Acuna 0.

UMAK 72 – Banguibang 31, Tagle 20, Bagares 10, Tapit 7, Rieza 4, Cruz 0, De Ocampo 0, Moore 0.

Quarters: 17-18, 43-34, 73-55, 93-72.

ORCOLLO

Orcollo ranks No. 1 in billiards money list

FILIPINO DENNIS ORCOLLO finished third overall in the recent Shooter of Olathe 10-ball extravaganza in Olathe, Kansas, to grab top spot in the AZ Billiards Plyaer Money List.

The 28-year-old Orcollo pocketed $11,000 in the event dominated by hometown bets Shane McMinn and Mike Banks to secure the No.1 spot in the 2007 AZ Billiards Player Money List with total earnings of $55,950 (about P2.5 million).

Orcollo won this year's BCA Enjoypool.com in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Orcollo, top player of Bugsy Promotion, overtook Amway Women's World 9-ball champion Xiao Tingpan of China, who dropped to No. 2 in the money list with $54,600. Amercian Johnny Archer was third with $52,440.

Taiwanese Yang Ching-shun ($40,000) and Filipinos Efren "Bata" Reyes ($39,350.00) and double world champ Ronato Alcano ($35,900) stayed at No.4 to 6 slots.

Bugsy boss Perry Mariano said Orcollo's ascension to the top spot porves that he is one of most bankable cue artists in the country today.

Marlon Bernardino, Contributor

Milagrosa gains national finals

ALEX MILAGROSA PROVIDED THE BIGGEST surprise in the 2007 National Chess Federation of the Philippine qualifying tournament by stunning second seed International Master Oliver Dimakiling in the ninth and final round at the Marketplace Shopping Mall in Mandaluyong City.

The unexpected triumph with the black pieces enabled the 27th seeded Milagrosa to clinch one of 10 slots to the round-robin national finals which begins at 10 a.m. tomorrow at the Mahogany Hotel in Tagaytay City.

Milagrosa scored seven points with IM Richard Bitoon, who drew his final-round match with top seed and fellow IM Wesley So. Bitoon, however, earned the title by virtue of higher tiebreak score.

Also making it to the tournament proper with 6.5 points were NM Roderick Nava, IM Barlo Nadera, NM Rolando Nolte, FM Fernie Donguines, NM Emmanuel Senador, IM Ronald Bancod, So and IM Jayson Gonzales.

In the women's division, Kimberly Jane Cunanan, Cristy Bernales and Shercila Cua led the qualifiers with six points out of a possible nine.

Cunanan drew with WIM Crisitne Rose Mariano, Bernales halved the point with Ylem Jose and Cua split the point with WIM Sheerie Joy Lomibao. Joining the three players are Sherily Cua, Lomibao, Jose, Catheine Perena, WIM Beverly Mendoza, Rusela Joya and Mariano.

The final qualifying tournament is organized by NCFP president Prospero "Butch" Pichay and supported by the Tagaytay City government under Mayor Abraham "Bambol" Tolentino.

JOEY ORDUNA

Tuason Racing entries dominate Asian karting

THE TUASON RACING-READY2RACE Team sparkled as its bets bagged two titles, two runner-ups and a third place finish in the recent Philippine leg of the 2007 Asian Karting Open Championship at the Carmona Circuit Philippines.

Joey Orduna and Hong Kong's Adrian Lau led the onslaught as they bagged the Mini-ROK and Rotax Max Juniors crowns, respectively.

The 12-year-old Orduna survived the intense dicing with Thailand's Chatmongkon Wisutthisen and Franco Reyes in the early goings and wrested the lead for good on the ninth lap as he wrapped up the 16-lap final race in 13:01.966 to capture the Mini-ROK crown.

Adopted Tuason Racing-R2R driver Liam Gout of Singapore made it a 1-2 finish as he checked in 13:16.110 or nearly 15 seconds behind Orduna.

Lau made an impressive debut in the Asian Karting tilt as he foiled what could have been a Philippine sweep after clinching the Rotax Max Juniors crown over Filipino Hiro Batolino.

Roby Benito checked in 0.386 seconds behind Vencer John Suba for ROK Junior runner-up honors. Juha Turalba placed fourth. Christopher "CJ" Salinas copped third in the Cadet 60 class behind Vei-AR Suba and Kim Cedric Remo.

"I'm very proud of what they achieved in a highlycompetitive event," said Chito Benito, president of the Tuason Racing R2R Team.

Borromeo plays for Kaya today

FORMER RP TEAM cAPTAIN ALY Borromeo will be back in harness when he suits up for Kaya today in the 2nd Terry Razon Copa Filipina Football League at the Nomads pitch in Parañaque.

Sidelined for over six months after recovering from an anterior cruciate ligament injury on his left knee, Borromeo will be united with another ex-RP standout, Freddie Gonzales, when they play defending champion Union at 4 p.m.

Still rated as one of the country's top strikers, Gonzales, the son of the late Terry Razon in whose honor the tournament is being held, showed vintage form last weekend in scoring a hat trick in anchoring the Kaya booters to a 6-0 rout of Nomads.

Razon ran rings around the Nomads' defenses with goals in the 23rd, 48th and 80th minutes in giving Kaya its initial triumph in the tourney organized by the National Capital Region Foorball Association with Mikasa as the official ball.

Air Force made its debut by blanking Ateneo FC, 2-0, with former national standouts Winnie Subere (14th) and Yanti Barsales (62nd) knocking in a goal each.

Ateneo tandem notches sweep

CLARK FIELD, PAMPANGA—ATENEO BETS ASIA URQUICO AND Jessica Morado completed a four-game sweep of the elimination round with a 21-14 win over Hannah Bernisi and Celimar Buencamino and clinched a semifinal slot in the third leg of the 2007 Petron Ladies Beach Volleyball tournament yesterday at the Clearwater Country Club here.

Urquico's service winner broke a 10-all count while two smashes from Morado gave the Lady Eagles a 15-10 edge which they never relinquished.

"*Ang daming hulog ni* Jessica *sa* net. Since *mahaba ang bola ko, sabi ko sa kanya, i-place na niya harap kapag may nakita siyang butas* (Jessica had a lot of drop shots. I told her to just go for her shots every time she sees an opening)," said Urquico, a biology freshman.

The Ateneo duo will be joined in the semis by the returning Sheryl Laborte and Bacolod campaigner Jenny Torres, who were also unbeaten after four matches in Group A.

Laborte, who coaches the Miriam College varsity team and was the champion here two years ago, capped her team's sweep with a 21-8 decision over Arellano University bets Razellene Pilar and Joy Basas.

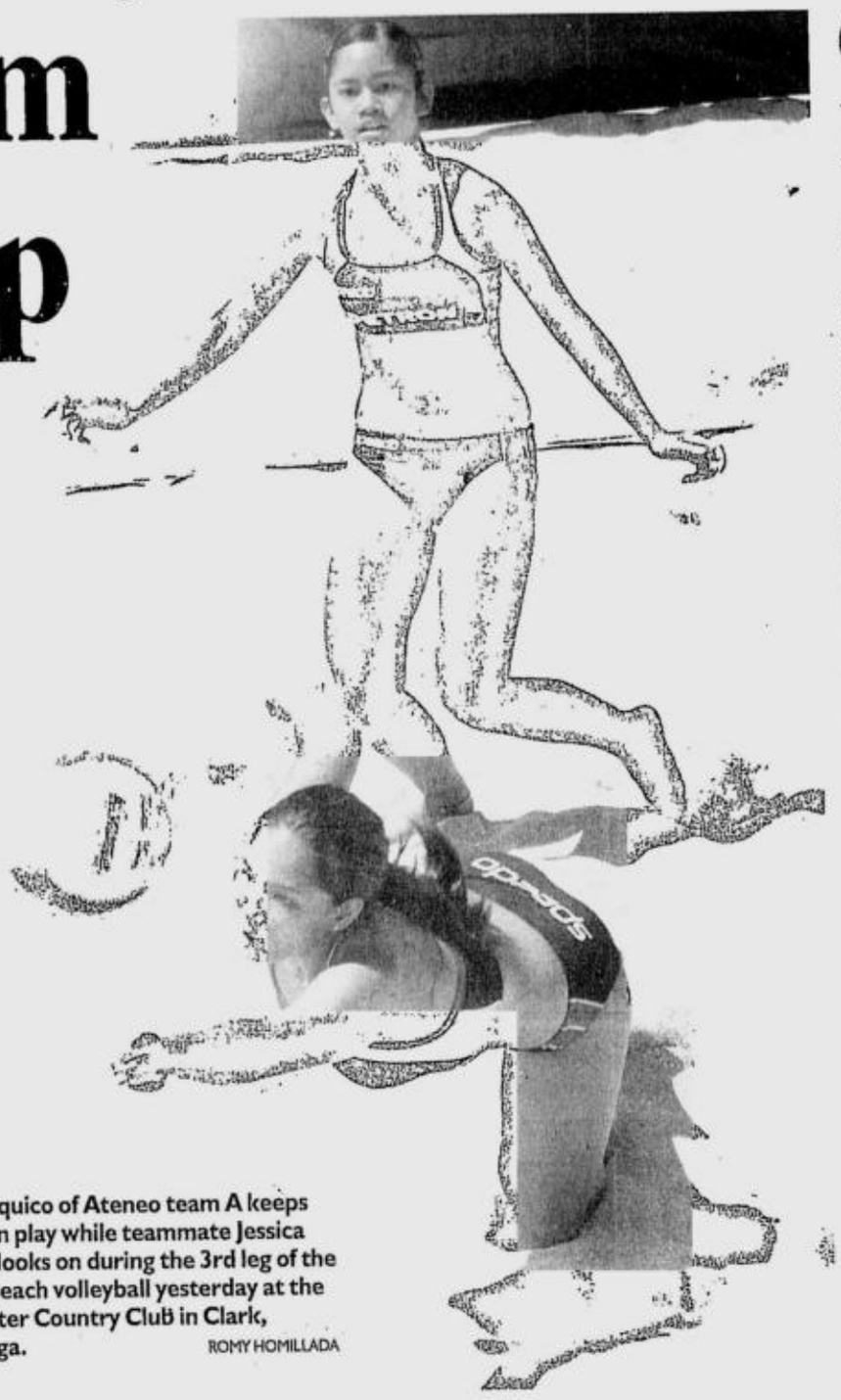
Philippine School of Business Administration's Jessica Ticala and Angelica Quinlog turned back Angel Tio Cuison and Valerie Tilos, 21-14, to bag the second semis slot in Group B.

Ticala and Quinlog advanced with their 3-1 win-loss record after earlier prevailing over Bernisi and Buencamino, 21-14.

Asian College of Science and Technology tandem Mary Jane Porcia and Mary Anne Calleja put away Arellano contenders Cherry Ferrer and Katrina Rimpillo, 21-14, and then leaned on the winner-over-the-other rule to likewise make the semis.

Porcia and Calleja shared the same 2-2 slate with Ferrer and Rimpillo.

The two-day beach volley event organized by former Philippine Sports Commission Commissioner Tisha Abundo is supported by Petron, Mikasa Balls, Speedo, ACSAT, Summit Drinking Water, Gatorade, Clearwater Country Club and Arellano University. Solar Sports Entertainment will air the tournament with the assistance of Smart.



ASIA Orquico of Ateneo team A keeps the ball in play while teammate Jessica Morado looks on during the 3rd leg of the Petron beach volleyball yesterday at the Clearwater Country Club in Clark, Pampanga. ROMY HOMILLADA

Ozamiz trips Pagadian five, enters finals

PAGADIAN CITY—REIGNING TITLIST Ozamiz rallied to beat Pagadian, 93-86, and clinch its fourth straight finals appearance Friday night in the 2007 Spring Cooking Oil-NBC National Cup basketball tournament at the city gym here.

The Explorers looked set to tie the best-of-three series by controlling the first half. But Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Cotta Shrine cagers clawed back behind hot-shooting Bruce Dacia to grab the lead for the first time, 47-45, halfway through the third period.

Pagadian tied the game for the last time at 61, but Ozamiz steadied in the stretch to sweep the Explorers in two games.

Dacia fired 23 points and back-to-back MVP Marlon Basco scored 14 and grabbed 11 rebounds. But it was Orly Alvarado who provided the difference, dishing out 11 assists, getting four boards and scoring 11 points.

"The team's championship experience showed," said Ozamiz coach Albert Calvo after closing out Pagadian.

It was the second time the Explorers, who were led by Mike Orquillas' 25 points and playing coach Peter Naron's 24, were swept by Ozamiz in the semis.

Firefly-Iligan holds a 1-0 edge over Toyota-Iloilo in the other semifinal series. Game 2 is set on Aug. 3 in Iloilo City.

The scores:

Ozamiz (93)—Dacia 23, Basco 14, Alberto 12, Alvarado 11, Nicdao 11, Liangco 8, Sampilo 6, Cavan 5, Balares 3, Gatumbato 0, Bansil 0, Tiongson 0

Pagadian (86)—Orquillas 25, Naron 24, Mamaclay 14, Daja 7, Saludsod 6, Villaver 4, Huclar 3, Sinco 3, Asaytono 0, Ayuk 0, Cortez 0

Quarters: 12-23, 37-45, 61-61, 93-86

PAGULAYAN RUDY ESPERAS

BSCP replaces Pagulayan in Guinness China leg

THE BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER Congress of the Philippines (BSCP) has withdrawn 2004 World 9-ball and 2005 US Open 9-ball champion Alex Pagulayan from the four-man RP team competing in the fifth and final leg of the Guinness 9-ball tour set Aug. 3-5 in China.

Jeffrey De Luna, the 2006 Doha Asian Games 9-ball silver medalist, will take Pagulayan's place in the RP squad that also include double world champion Ronnie Alcano, reigning National Open champion Lee Van Corteza and 2007 Battle of Scandinavia 9-ball winner Roberto Gomez.

Pagulayan blasted the BSCP decision to replace him yesterday, saying he had already purchased a round trip ticket to Shanghai in anticipation of his entry in the China leg following his semifinal finish in the Singapore stage recently.

"This will certainly affect my game here in Cebu," added the 29-year-old Filipino-Canadian, who is one of the favorites for the P160,000 top prize in the ongoing 2007 Cebu Open being held at the SM City-Cebu Trade Hall in Cebu City.

BSCP president Ernie Fajardo said the decision to change the RP lineup was a prerogative of the BSCP executive committee.

While admitting there were some complaints regarding Pagulayan's behavior in his semifinal loss in the Singapore leg, Fajardo said the executive committee did not use it as reason for removing him from the RP team.

"Changing the lineup is a prerogative of the executive committee," Fajardo said.

Pagulayan, a multiple gold medalist in the 2005 Southeast Asian Games and the 2006 BSCP National Open champion, was seen clowning in his semifinal loss to Mindanao-born Malaysian Ibrahim Bin Amir in Singapore last July 16.

After four legs, Taiwanese Yang Ching-shun (175 points), Chang Jung-lin (170), Chao Fong-pang (150) and Wu Chia-ching (120) lead the Guinness Order of Merit.

Aside from slots to this year's World Pool Championships, the top 10 players also advance to the Grand Finale on Aug. 31-Sept. 2 in Bali, Indonesia, with $36,000 going to the champion. *Marlon Bernardino, Contributor*

Del Rosario tops Thailand nat'l jet ski

FILIPINO ACE PAUL DEL ROSARIO OF Kawasaki-Petron achieved another milestone when he emerged champion in the recent 2007 Thailand Jet Ski National Series at the province of Surathani.

Del Rosario thus became the first foreign champion in the premiere 1200 Superstock class of the tight series and boosted his stock as Asia's No. 1 professional jetskier.

Paul amassed a total of 221 points out of a perfect 240 points in the four-leg series.

Three-time world champ Chaowalit Kuajaroon emerged overall runner-up with 192 points while last year's titlist Ekchon Kingchansil took third place with 156 points.

Prior to the fourth and final race, Del Rosario was five points ahead of his main rival world champ Pranom Khuenjeng but never thought he could make it because of the superior boat of the Thai.

However, Pranum was disqualified by the Thailand Jetsports amd Boating Association after finding out that he raced with a hand-crafted jetski hull and his boat was found to be 90 lbs lighter than the allowed weight.

DEL ROSARIO

"I appreciated the Thais' unbiased decision that only proved their honest sportsmanship," said Del Rosario. "They even looked for a Filipino flag, and were touched when I waved the Thai flag along with the Philippine flag during the awarding ceremony."

Del Rosario's campaign was supported by Petron, Kawasaki-Philippines, Manila Cordage, Quakysense, Stoked Inc., and Networx.com.

"This victory could not have been possible without the huge support of Team Flamingo owned by German Taipan Henry Knauf, crew chief Mark Dobson and Yanik Elnar," Del Rosario added.

Del Rosario considers this feat as his toughest quest and highest achievement in his racing career.

SPORTSWATCH

Petron Jetski series unfolds today

EXCITING WATERSPORTS ACTION RETURNS AS THE 2007 PETRON-JSAP National Jetski Series kicks off today at the Waterfront Beach of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority. The cast includes last year's co-Riders of the Year Paul del Rosario and BJ Ang, who will be battling for the premiere Expert Unlimited 1200 class. Both have been competing in the World Jet Ski Finals in Lake Havasu, Arizona, with Ang emerging as the first Filipino Pro-Am finalist of the event. Del Rosario recently became the first foreign Thailand National champ. Other entries include last year's Novice champ Mike Mangio, Harley David, Carlo Garcia and Peter Cruz. The Novice division will be led by Robbie David, Sammy Parilla, Butch Casido and female riders Abby Reyes, Jam Mangio and Emily Crisostomo.

Women's beach volleyball resumes

THE 2007 PCSO WOMEN'S INTER-COLLEGIATE BEACH VOLLEYBALL SERIES resumes today at the sand court of the Cantada Sports Center in Bagumbayan, Taguig City. The one-day event, organized by Joe Cantada Sports, is being supported by PCSO, Tanduay, Mapecon and Toyota Balintawak. The series is scheduled every two months. All officials of the event are Philippine Volleyball Federation certified. Sixteen teams have been registered for the event. The volleyball matches are aired on its regular weekly television sports program Golf Power Plus every Sunday, starting at 3:30 p.m. on NBN-4. Golf Power Plus is aired worldwide through ABS-CBN Global Limited's The Filipino Channel/Kapamilya TV.

Makati derby submission of weights up

OFFICIAL ENTRIES, WITH WEIGHT LIMITS OF 1.8 KG TO 2.4 KG, MUST BE SUBmitted from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at the Makati Coliseum in connection with the WTJ 3-cock derby. The event fires off tomorrow featuring some 50 fights. Promoters Lito Orillaza, Rudy Salud and William Co of the WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp. put up a guaranteed prize of P300,000. Meanwhile, veteran promoter Bobbit Ples will host the Taglugon 4-cock derby at Makati Coliseum on Aug. 15. Ples staked a guaranteed prize of P300,000 for an entry fee of P10,000. The annual Richard L. Bates 7-stag derby also unfolds at Makati Coliseum on Aug. 27 and 29. For inquiries, call 8963545 and 8956475.

Roligon 5-cocker dangles P1 million

ROLIGON MEGA COCKPIT'S PAHABOL SA TAGLUGON 5-COCK DERBY, WITH P1 million in guaranteed prize at stake, blasts off on Tuesday and Thursday. Host Rolly Ligon pegged the entry fee at P7,700. Entries must be submitted at Roligon on Monday, July 30, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. For inquiries, call 8512275 and 8529812 (Jona or Shirley). Competition starts on Tuesday with the 2-cock elimination round. All qualifiers will then slug it out for the title on Aug. 2. Meanwhile, Roligon's annual Stag Festival 5-stag derby, which lured 159 entries last year, will be held on Sept. 6, 8 and 10. Mimi Itchon will start screening of stags on Aug. 10.

Deputy Stravinsky pits wares vs banner field

DEPUTY STRAVINSKY CHALlenges a crack field of seasoned stakes campaigners in the 3rd leg of the 2007 Santa Ana Park Championship Series Sunday at the Santa Ana Park.

Coming off a rousing comeback victory three weeks ago at his home track, the handsome 3-year-old bay colt, the 2006 champion 2-year-old import, steps up in class in facing the notable gallopers over a short distance of 1,500 meters.

Bred in the United States and imported as a yearling in 2005 by former Philracom Commissioner Marlon Cunanan, Deputy Stravinsky is by prominent stallion Stravinsky out of La Deputay by Deputy Minister (Canada).

Deputy Stravinsky is currently racing under the banner of owners Joe and Aida Arceo and is trained by Jose Panlilio. Regular rider Julio Manalo is set to skipper the colt carrying a handicap weight of 54 kg.

Expected to provide stiff competition for the premier spot is 6-year-old race mare Daijobo's Succes (Aus), Manila Rep. Amado Bagatsing's notable speedster who is fresh off a track record-run over a mile (1,600 meters) in the recent Marho Chairman Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. Cup at the same track.

RACING

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1—(Tri)—Inspiring (4), Dance Music (5), Fiercely Bright (1)
Race 2—(Qrt/Tri)—Eye Candy (2), Karma (4), Joint Account (6), Real Black (5)
Race 3—(Qrt/Tri)—Fair Urduja (4), My Sheikh (3), Blue Iris (1), Gold Collar (2)
Race 4—(Tri)—Lirao (3), Dark Desert (2), Arctic Desert (1)
Race 5—(Qrt/Tri)—Think Tank/White Diamond (5), Dugo's Favorite (5), Elgene Elgene (6), Fox Trot (3)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Blue Sheikh (1), One Vision (4), Red Hot Water (11), Classic Royale (9), Maricor's Charm (6)
Race 7—Deputy Stravinsky (5), La Tienne (4), Daijobo's Success (1), Heroics (6)
Race 8—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Music King (8), Minsk City (3), Dom Peri Pink (1), Personal File (1), Flavorofthemonth (6)
Race 9—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Pentagon (5), Now Showing (4), Friendly Fire (8), Money Man (2), Words Of Joy (3)
Race 10—(Qrt/Tri)—Cristina (1), Commodore Tiger (6), Sixela (7), Brazilian Babe (5)
Race 11—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Dancing Polly (4), Glory And Honour (7), Aly Dancer (9), Miss Fantastic (3), My Happiness (6)
Race 12—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Anytime Anywhere (5), Pirouette (6), Daddy's Girl (1), Lovely Tara (3), Cool Turner (2)
Race 13—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Sound Of Silence (7), Hok Kee Hok (2), Shades Of Red (6), Lord Elgene (5), Maximum Impact (1), Apple Splash (9)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **National Transmission Corporation**, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contract:

Name of Contract	: **Relocation of Steel Poles Affected by DPWH Road Widening Project of the Hermosa-Balintawak 230 kV Transmission Line (Sp06.HBTL.Lc-0075)**
Location	: **Pampanga and Bulacan Provinces, Island of Luzon**
Brief Description	: **Erection and Construction of the Steel Pole/Tower Structure and Dismantling of Existing Steel Poles at Hermosa-Balintawak 230kV Transmission Line**
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	: **P 81,800,000.00**
Contract Duration	: **365 Days**

The PCAB License and Registration Particulars required should be as follows:

License Particular	: at least Category "A" – General Building or Sp. Electrical Works
Registration Particular	at least "Medium B" – Sp. Electrical Works

Prospective bidders should have completed a similar contract with a value of at least 50% of the ABC, and have key personnel and equipment (listed in the Eligibility Forms) available for the prosecution of the contract. The BAC will use non-discretionary pass/fail criteria in the Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids. The BAC will conduct post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The schedule of BAC activities is as follows:

BAC Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	July 23, 2007
2. Pre-Eligibility Conference	August 2, 2007
3. Deadline of Submission of Eligibility Requirements	August 10, 2007
4. Issuance of Bid Documents	August 20, 2007
5. Pre-bid Conference	September 4, 2007
6. Submission and Opening of Bids	September 18, 2007

The BAC will issue to prospective bidders Eligibility Forms at **BCMD, Ground Floor, Transco Main Building, Power Center, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road Diliman, Quezon City 1104**, upon their payment of a non-refundable amount of **P1,000.00** to the **National Transmission Corporation** Cashier. Prospective bidders shall submit the Eligibility Requirements to the BAC at the said address. They may also obtain the results of the Eligibility Check by the BAC at the same address.

The BAC will issue Bidding Documents only to bidders declared by the BAC to be eligible for the bidding upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **P10,000.00** to the **National Transmission Corporation** Cashier.

The **National Transmission Corporation** assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) ATTY. NOEL Z. DE LEON
BAC Chairman

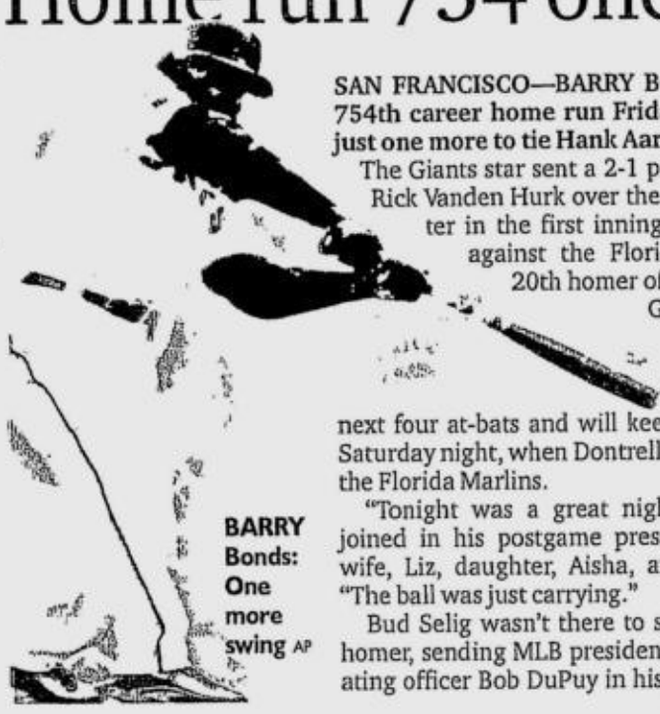
(PDI – July 21 & 29, 2007)

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday SPORTS
SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/sports
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

PHOTO FINISH
Antigua and Barbuda's Brendan Christian (left) beats Jamaica's Marvin Anderson to the gold medal at the Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro. AP

Bonds nears history

Home run 754 one off Hank's mark



BARRY Bonds: One more swing AP

SAN FRANCISCO—BARRY BONDS HIT HIS 754th career home run Friday, and needed just one more to tie Hank Aaron's record.

The Giants star sent a 2-1 pitch from rookie Rick Vanden Hurk over the wall in left-center in the first inning for a solo shot against the Florida Marlins, his 20th homer of the season. The Giants went on to win 12-10.

Bonds walked in his next four at-bats and will keep up his pursuit Saturday night, when Dontrelle Willis starts for the Florida Marlins.

"Tonight was a great night," Bonds said, joined in his postgame press conference by wife, Liz, daughter, Aisha, and son, Nikolai. "The ball was just carrying."

Bud Selig wasn't there to see Bonds' 754th homer, sending MLB president and chief operating officer Bob DuPuy in his place. The commissioner was back in Milwaukee, preparing to go to Sunday's Hall of Fame induction ceremony in Cooperstown, New York.

Bonds did hear from Michael Jordan, though. A taped message from the NBA great played on the video board between innings.

"It was great seeing the board, and having Michael Jordan say what he said was phenomenal," Bonds said.

After a brief pause to put specially marked baseballs in play, Bonds drew ball one and ball two, with boos raining down on Vanden Hurk, before a called first strike. Then, the changeup was gone—a drive estimated at 420 feet (125 meters).

As usual, Bonds stood and watched his ball sail away, then began yet another trot.

Fans, already on their feet for Bonds' first at-bat, screamed in delight when it was clear he had homered—Bonds' first at home since he connected for No. 750 on June 29 against Arizona's Livan Hernandez. *AP*

Tour duel: Contador vs Evans

ANGOULEME, FRANCE—BATTERED BY scandal and doping embarrassments, the Tour de France might actually have stumbled upon a sliver of good news.

A competitive finish.

Overall leader Alberto Contador of Spain and Cadel Evans of Australia could win or lose the race during Saturday's time trial. The race ends on Sunday in Paris along the Champs-Elysees.

A slim margin of 1 minute, 50 seconds separates the two riders, each going for a first victory in this event and suddenly thrust into the spotlight after the ouster of former overall leader Michael Rasmussen.

"Tomorrow is the most difficult day of my career as an athlete," Contador said after Friday's 18th stage, which was won by Sandy Casar. The French rider won the 211-kilometer (131-mile) stage despite crashing after hitting a spectator's dog.

The 24-year-old Contador would be the Tour's youngest winner since Jan Ullrich in 1997. A victory for Evans would be a big lift for sports-mad Australia, where rugby and cricket hold sway.

For the past two days, the Tour has teetered on collapse. Three riders were kicked out in the space of 30 hours—two for doping and one positively lying. No further doping scandals hit the 104-year-old race by late Friday.

That left Contador and Evans to concentrate on Saturday's 55.5-kilometer (35-mile) race against the clock from Cognac to Angouleme.

"Everything can change—my entire life can change," Contador said.

Evans' Predictor-Lotto sporting director Hendrik Redant said the 29-year-old rider is "very relaxed."

That can hardly be said of most everybody else this year. The race has been reeling from drug-related episodes.

The Danish rider Rasmussen was kicked out of the race by his Rabobank team for missing doping tests in June. He contended he was in Mexico, where his wife is from. *AP*

Jordan sows fear . . . From page A23

tional coach, made the final cut for this tournament, dropping forwards Ranidel de Ocampo and Tony dela Cruz, and superstar guard James Yap.

The three were the first to speak.

Yap, delisted in favor of shooter Renren Ritualo in an agonizing decision that left the coaching staff and team officials ragged and fagged out, thanked the team for giving him a chance despite the fact that he joined the pool late.

Dela Cruz spoke of "being the team's No. 1 fan now," but said he would do anything in practice to help the squad.

Resident joker De Ocampo found punchlines to his being dismissed and delivered them in rapid succession, "eliciting laughter from everyone," people who witnessed the meeting said.

And then came the renewal of commitment to the national cause from those who made the cut.

"It was nice to hear them speak passionately about the reason they are here for," said team manager Robert Non.

Never mind if some of the players got their verbal imagery all mixed up.

"We're going to (expletive deleted) Mt. Olympics," officials quoted spitfire guard Mark Caguioa as saying.

"Think of all the people we left back home," urged Jimmy Alapag. "Think of the people in their offices, in the kitchen. Everyone's pinning their hopes on us."

"This moment makes me proud to be a Filipino," Jayjay Helterbrand said.

BROADESTSHEET
The Philippine Daily Inquirer is the No. 1 newspaper, according to Synovate Media Atlas 2006-2007. For this, we have you, readers and partners, to thank.

Subscribe now. Call the Inquirer Subscription Hotline: 896-6000.
Base: All English Daily Readers in Greater Manila Area, read yesterday. Source: Synovate Media Atlas 2006-2007 (Combined Waves 1-4)

IN THIS ISSUE
Concept restos by young entrepreneur /B3
Debt-ridden drugstore in a big turnaround /B7

Website: www.inquirer.net/business

Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Text us your feedback: Inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) E-mail: business@inquirer.com.ph

Get ready for the rest of your life.
FOR STAYING POWER
IMMUVIT
Available in leading drugstores nationwide

Octogenarian is insurance industry's best kept secret

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

A good command of the English language and lots of talent helped Reynaldo de Dios make it big in his chosen field

WHAT DO TOP EXECUTIVES OF the country's insurance industry have in common?

The answer: An 80-year-old man who had been their consultant at one time or another.

Reynaldo A. de Dios could have chosen to just become a top executive in the industry years ago but instead opted to go the entrepreneurial way by setting up an insurance consulting firm named Reynaldo A de Dios & Co. Inc., of course, after himself.

De Dios, fondly called Ronnie by friends and colleagues for short, celebrated his 80th birthday last Wednesday. The birthday party crowd was a veritable who's who in the local insurance industry, a testament to the respect bestowed to a colleague.

Among his guests were Philamlife president Jose L. Cuisia, Insular Life chair Vicente Ayllon, Plantersback chair Jesus Tambunting, Tammy Lipana of Isla Lipana, Carlos Alindada, former head of SGV & Co. and FirstLife head Peter Coyuito.

Stark contrast

The stature he enjoys today is a stark contrast to his humble beginnings.

He was born on July 25, 1927, in Shanghai. His family is not Chinese, by the way. It so happened that his parents were with his grandparents who were then working as musicians in Shanghai clubs when Ronnie was born.

De Dios' family comes from the famous clan of musicians of Laguna, the Alinsods. His grandparents can be considered the predecessors of Filipinos earning a living abroad as entertainers and musicians.

At an early age, Ronnie was exposed to an international community. He studied in a French school where students included children of various nationalities as well as the children of the 300 Filipinos living in Shanghai then, many of whom were musicians like his grandparents.

He first set foot on the Philippines in 1936 when he was already nine years old. That's when his grandparents decided to come home for good. But three years later, in 1939, Ronnie's mother got a good job offer from the 20th Century Fox's office in Shanghai and accepted it. So the mother and son headed back to China. Ronnie's father stayed behind in Manila but left the Philippines shortly after being enlisted in the United States Navy.

First Job

Ronnie never got to see his father again when they bade goodbye to each other in 1939. Somebody told him later that his father died during the Second World War.

Health as wealth

During his recent birthday bash, De Dios would often cite the popular saying "health is better than wealth."

This insurance expert knows only too well the value of health. His mother died of malnutrition in Shanghai in 1944 during the war. Unable to go back to the Philippines, Ronnie sold charcoal and cigarettes and stayed with friends of varied nationalities in Shanghai to live. He would often go hungry, and relied on food scraps and dole-outs to survive.

In 1945, when the Americans liberated China from the Japanese rule, all Filipinos in Shanghai were asked to register and decide where they wanted to go—the Philippines or the United States.

"We were considered wards of

OCTOGENARIAN/ B6

BUY•SELL•PAWN
ROLEX
& other SWISS WATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST PRICE IN TOWN!!!
SPOT CASH
8341572
8316712
09178141967
SOFITEL PHILIPPINE PLAZA (WESTIN)
10:00 AM - 8:00 PM 7 days a week
(Not connected to Rolex Center Phils. LTD or any other watch company or service center)

LA JOYA DE STA. ROSA
Along National Rd., Sta Rosa Laguna
(Across Sta. Rosa Commercial Complex)
LIMITED OFFER!
Avail of our Exciting Promo
• own a lot for as low as P 5,000 monthly
• 0% interest for the first 2 yrs. of payment
Title Ready.
Brokers are welcome for accreditation.
For inquiries, please call:
702-7093 to 95
Call Center: 631-8000 (After 6pm)

Auction Powered by: THE PROPERTY FORUM PHILS.
http://www.propertyforum.net.ph
The No. 1 Property Auctioneer in the Philippines with a nationwide network and over 5.5 billion sales from 51 auctions and over 3,100 winning bidders.
STAR ASSET MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. (SAMSI)
STARAUCTION
August 04, 2007 (Saturday)
Max's Restaurant, Jupiter St., Bel Air II, Makati City
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 8:00AM
AUCTION STARTS AT 9:00AM
ACCEPTING PRE-AUCTION OFFERS!
AS LOW AS 10% DOWN PAYMENT
FLEXIBLE FINANCING TERMS

METRO MANILA
ANTIPOLO
SAM_ANT 001 RSDL LOT
LA. 460 sqm.(near Maia Alta)
Midvale St., Sta. Monica II
FILINVEST MISSION HILLS
Min. Bid Price: P1,311,000

SAM_ANT 002 RSDL LOT
PARKRIDGE ESTATE
(near valley golf subd.)
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
400 sqm. P 560,000
433 sqm. P 606,200
562 sqm. P 786,800
651 sqm. P 991,400

SAM_ANT 003 RSDL LOT
LA. 252 sqm.(near Sta. Lucia)
Alcaraz St., VISTA VERDE EXEC VILL., Bo. Mayamot
Min. Bid Price: P 777,000

SAM_ANT 006 RSDL LOT
LA. 400 sqm.(near Tak-Tak Subd.)
Montecarlo St., ANTIPOLO GREENHEIGHTS
Min. Bid Price: P 452,000

SAM_ANT007 FARM LOT
LA. 2,040 sqm.
(near Seven Dolours School)
Cor. Kasoy/Avocado Sts
PHIL FARM VILLAGE,
Brgy. St. Nino
Min. Bid Price: P 3,876,000

GREENHILLS SAN JUAN
SAM_SJ096 OFFICE CONDO.
FA. 197.59 sqm.
GOLDHILL TOWER CONDO
Annapolis St. (Near Greenhills Shopping Center)
Min. Bid Price: P4,702,642

MANILA
SAM_MLA033 RSDL TWNHSE
LA. 183.97 sqm.
(near St. Ann Academy)
Unit 11 STA. ANA VILLAS,
Pedro Gil St.
Min. Bid Price: P4,600,000

MUNTINLUPA
SAM_MUN036 COMM'L LOT
LA. 1,396 sqm.
(near Festival Super Mall)
Asean Drive, Spectrum Business Dist.
FILINVEST CORPORATE CITY
Min. Bid Price: P62,820,000

PASAY
SAM_PSY067 RSDL LOT
LA. 389 sqm.
(near Manila Sanitarium Hospital)
BRGY. SAN JOSE
Min. Bid Price: P2,000,000

ORTIGAS PASIG CITY
SAM_PSG071 OFFICE CONDO
LA. 198.27 sqm.
(near SM Mega Mall)
BELVEDERE TOWER CONDOMINIUM, San Miguel Ave
Min. Bid Price: 5,948,000

QUEZON CITY
SAM_QCL076 HOUSE & LOT
LA. 289.70 sqm. FA. 402 sqm.
(Near Araneta Ave.)
Palanza St., SANTOL DISTRICT
Min. Bid Price: P 6,375,000

SAM_QCL086 RSDL LOT
LA. 1,355 sqm.
(Near Sandigan Bldg.)
DON FABIAN SUBD.,
Capitol District
Min. Bid Price: P4,031,125

SAM_QCB074 2-STRY
RESIDENTIAL BLDG.
LA. 190 sqm. FA. 293 sqm.
(near Pascual Liner Bus Compound) San Pablo St. Gulod,
NOVALICHES
Min. Bid Price: 1,337,900

SAM_QCB078 COMM'L. LOT
LA. 675 sqm. (Near SM Fairview)
Roces Ave./Sct. Castor St.
DILIMAN
Min. Bid Price: P13,770,000

SAM_QCB079 10 RSDL LOT
NEOPOLITAN SUBD. North Fairview
(Along Don Mariano Marcos Ave. Near SM Fairview)
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
300 sqm. P 840,000
300 sqm. P 1,050,000
398 sqm. P 1,114,400
450 sqm. P 1,260,000
542 sqm. P 1,517,600
1,000 sqm. P 4,001,800

SAM_QCB085 COMM'L BLDG.
LA. 1,310 sqm. FA. 1,991 sqm
Near Tierra Pura Subdivision)
JORJO BLDG.,
Tandang Sora Ave. Culiat
Min. Bid Price: P22,950,000

SAM_QCB087 RSDL/COMM'L LOT
LA. 809.80 sqm.
(near Shell Gas Station)
KALAYAAN AVE. Diliman
Min. Bid Price: P11,900,000

RIZAL
(Cainta, San Mateo, Tanay)
SAM_RZL012 RSDL LOT
LA. 240 sqm. (near Mitsubishi)
No. 15 Baseball St.,
NEW FRANCIS VILLAGE, Cainta
Min. Bid Price: P 800,000

SAM_RZL014 HOUSE & LOT
LA. 180 sqm. FA. 18 sqm.
B.A. Cruz St. BRGY. STA. ANA
Min. Bid Price: P 396,000

SAM_RZL016 RSDL VACANT LOT
LA. 450 sqm.
(near San Mateo Brgy. Hall)
L25 B3 St. Matthew St.
MARVI HILLS SUBD.,
San Mateo
Min. Bid Price: P 675,000

SAM_RZL019 RSDL LOT
LA. 3,011 sqm.
Brgy. Sampaloc, TANAY
Min. Bid Price: P1, 055,000

TAGUIG
SAM_TAG101 FAMILY ESTATE MEMORIAL LOTS
THE HERITAGE PARK, Fort Bonifacio
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
60 sqm. P 3,386,400
(3 lots available)
100 sqm. P 5,644,000

VALENZUELA
SAM_VAL103 5-DR RSDL APARTMENT
LA. 437.70 sqm. FA. 425 sqm.
(near Bayna Commercial)
Interior Lamesa St.
BRGY. UGONG
Min. Bid Price: P 2,125,000

LUZON
LAGUNA
SAM_LGN150 RSDL LOT W/ HOT SPRING
LA. 2,990 sqm.
(Near Los Baños Crossing)
National Rd., Brgy. Bambang,
LOS BAÑOS
Min. Bid Price: 4,485,000

SAM_LGN151 RESORT SITE W/ VARIOUS IMPV'T
LA. 8,661 sqm. FA. 1,783.82 sqm.
(Near Calamba-Los Baños boundary)
GOLDEN SWAN RESORT,
Sucol, Calamba
Min. Bid Price: P12,991,500

SAM_LGN152 RSDL LOT
SOUTHPOINT, Cabuyao &
Sta. Rosa, beside Mapua (Malayan) University
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
180 sqm. P 419,904
218 sqm. P 508,550
292 sqm. P 681,178
355 sqm. P 828,144
374 sqm. P 872,467

SAM_LGN153 RSDL LOT
LA. 961.00 sqm.
(Near Carmelray Industrial Park)
MONTECITO ESTATE
Canlubang, Calamba
Min. Bid Price: P4,084,250

SAM_LGN155 RSDL LOT
LA. 874 sqm.
(Near San Pablo City Hall)
Mabini Extention, SAN LUCAS I
San Pablo City
Min. Bid Price: P2,010,200

SAM_LGN156 COMM'L LOT
LA. 394 sqm. FA 60.42 sqm.
(Near San Pablo City Hall)
LIMCAUCO SUBD., Brgy III,
Cabuyao
Min. Bid Price: P1,674,500

LA UNION
Text 09064371494
SAM_LAU109 AGRI LOT W/ ROW
LA. 74,694 sqm. (interior lot)
ARINGAY, La Union
Min. Bid Price: P 3,734,700

SAM_LAU111 2-STRY RSDL BLDG
LA. 4,560 sqm. FA. 454 sqm.
San Agustin, AGOO
(along Marcos Highway)
Min Bid Price: P3,316,482

SAM_LAU112 RSDL VACANT LOT
LA. 510 sqm.
(near Aringay town proper)
San Benito Sur, ARINGAY
Min. Bid Price: P255,000

SAM_LAU113 2-STRY.
RSDL/COMM'L BLDG
LA.1,301 sqm. FA. 2,570 sqm.
(near Cristy Anne Apartelle)
Brgy. Tanguie,
SAN FERNANDO CITY
Min. Bid Price: P20,847,950

MEGA TAGAYTAY
SAM_TGY104 RSDL LOT
PALMRIDGE POINTE PH1 SUBD.
(w/ view of TAAL Lake & TAAL Volcano) Brgy Balas, Talisay
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
362 sqm. P 651,600
412 sqm. P 741,600
463 sqm. P 833,400
526 sqm. P 950,400

PANGASINAN
Text 09154348252
SAM_PSN114 ORCHARD LOT
LA. 12,586 sqm.
(1.50 Km. South from Sison Town Hall) Asan Sur, SISON
Min. Bid Price: P62,930

SAM_PSN115 RSDL LOTS W/ 2-STRY. RSDL BLDG.
LA.1,530 sqm. FA.395 sqm.
(near San Vicente Elem. School)
Bgy. San Vicente, SAN JACINTO
Min. Bid Price: P1,530,000

TARLAC
Text 09163086112
SAM_TAR136 AGRILOT W/ H&L
L.A. 49,713 sqm F.A. 391 sqm.
Bo. Caluluan, CONCEPCION
Min. Bid Price: P17,399,550

VISAYAS
BACOLOD
Text 09214488869
SAM_BAC179 2-STRY TOWNHSE
Beverly Homes Townhouses
STA. CLARA SUBD.
(near Robinson/Lopues)
Lot Area Floor Area Min. Bid Price
118sqm. 163 sqm. P 2,000,000
172sqm. 163 sqm. P 2,332,000
181sqm. 163 sqm. P 2,332,000

SAM_BAC182 2-STRY. TWNHSE
LA. 140 sqm. FA.148 sqm.
(near Galsano)
TORRES COMPOUND,
Singcang Airport
Min. Bid Price: P304,300

BAC 185 RSDL LOT
LA. 1,107 sqm
(fronting Pehmkoo)
ARANETA ST. EXTENSION,
Brgy. Tangub,
Min. Bid Price: P 4,250,000

SAM_BAC191 RSDL LOT W/ 2-STRY. RSDL BLDG.
LA. 2,710 sqm. FA. 820 sqm.
(near Robinson's & ABS-CBN)
Gatuslao St., CAPITOL SUBD.
Min. Bid Price: P9,016,500

SAM_BAC195 RSDL LOT
LA. 1,534 sqm. (near Police Headquarters)
HANDUMAN RD.,
Brgy. Mansilingan
Min. Bid Price: P1,380,000

SAM_BAC196 2-STRY
COMMERCIAL BLDG
LA. 178 sqm FA.326 sqm.
(near Bus Terminal)
C-50 Narra Avenue
CAPITOL SHOPPING CENTER
Min. Bid Price: P2,670,000

CEBU
Text 09266256957
SAM_CBU165 2 STRY.HOUSE & LOT
LA. 979 sqm.
(near Jollibee-Basnawa & Foodarama-Guadalupe)
J. FORTICH ST., Brgy. Banawa
Min. Bid Price: P 5,830,000

SAM_CBU168 OFFICE CONDO
IAU TOWER, D. Jakosalem St.
(near Uptown Area)
Floor Area Min. Bid Price
59 sqm. P 1,092,000
84.48 sqm. P 1,343,232
20.81 sqm. P 1,920,679

SAM_CBU171 HOUSE & LOT
LA. 1,859 sqm. FA.103 sqm.
(near White Beaches of Mactan)
Brgy. Pajo, LAPU-LAPU CITY
Min. Bid Price:P25,124,300

SAM_CBU172 RSDL HSE & LOT
L.A. 1,748 sqm. F.A. 297 sqm.
Brgy. Gun-ob, Lapu-lapu City
Min. Bid Price: P1,680,000

SAM_CBU173 SINGLE STRY
COMM'L BLDG.
LA. 5,659 FA. 324 sqm
(near Lapu-Lapu district Hospital, PNP Station, Lapu-Lapu City ext. office)
Sta. Rosa, LAPU-LAPU CITY
Min. Bid Price:P4,320,000

SAM_CBU174 VACANT LOT
LA. 126 sqm.
(near Mactan Hospital Community)
Basak, LAPU-LAPU CITY
Min. Bid Price: P251,685

ILOILO
Text 09206186282
SAM_ILO199 RSDL LOT
LA. 240 sqm
LEGANES
(near Calaboa Brgy. Hall)
Min. Bid Price: P204,000

SAM_ILO200 RSDL LOT
LA. 6,000 sqm
(near Mutual Home Subd.)
Brgy. Ilaya, ZARRAGA
Min. Bid Price: P2,468,000

SAM_ILO201 RSDL LOT
LA. 495 sqm.
(near Cristina Subd.)
Brgy. Cagbang, OTON
Min. Bid Price:P940,000

SAM_ILO203 RICELAND
LA. 4,255 sqm
(near Sanctuary Memorial Garden & Forest-lake) Calajunan,
MANDURRIAO DISTRICT
Min. Bid Price: P319,125

SAM_ILO204 RSDL LOT
LA. 252 sqm
(near West Baluarte Health Center)
Brgy. Molo Blvd.,
MOLO DISTRICT
Min. Bid Price: P100,800

SAM_ILO205 2-STRY HOUSE & LOT
LA. 218 sqm FA.150 sqm.
(near shell gas station & Western Visayas College Technology) JALECO SUBD.,
Brgy. Burgos-Mabini,La Paz District
Min. Bid Price: P637,500

SAM_ILO207 AGRI LOT
LA. 1,061 sqm
Poblacion Dingle
Min. Bid Price: P159,150

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL
Text 09214488869
SAM_NO208 RSDL LOT
LA. 180 sqm.
VILLA ANGELA SUBD.,
Talisay City
Min. Bid Price: P135,000

MINDANAO
CAGAYAN DE ORO
Text 09217388885
SAM_CDO212 RSDL LOT
LA. 2,284.00
(near Angora Market)
BARRIO PUNTOD
Min. Bid Price: P342,600

SAM_CDO215 RSDL LOT
LA. 2,590 sqm.
(200 meters away from Cagayan De Oro Oil Company)
BRGY. AGUSAN
Min. Bid Price: P777,000

SAM_CDO 216 RSDL LOT
LA. 413 sqm
Ramoncita Velez St.,
APOVEL SUBD., Bulua District
Min. Bid Price: P935,000

SAM_CDO217 RSDL LOT
FAIRLANE SUBD., Kauswagan
(near City Engineering Office)
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
653.sqm. P 391,800
785sqm P 645,000
1,000 sqm. P 510,000

SAM_CDO222 RSDL LOT
LA. 30 sqm
(near Puntod bridge)
JULIO PACANA ST., Puntod
Min. Bid Price: P114,198

SAM_CDO225 RSDL LOT
LA. 500 sqm.
(back most portion of Agoho drive)Tibasak, MACASANDIG
Min. Bid Price: P625,000

SAM_CDO228 COMM'L LOT
MAKAHAMBUS STREET,
Brgy. 15, Poblacion
(Near Cosmopolitan Funeral Homes)
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
349 sqm. P 1,794,000
618 sqm P 3,177,000

SAM_CDO237 2-STRY
RESIDENTIAL BLDG
LA. 1,662 sqm FA. 173 sqm.
(across the property of Oro Rama Mega Center) LAPASAN
Min. Bid Price: P8,310,000

DAVAO
Text 09219703112
SAM_DAV 251 AGRI LOT
LA. 39,366 sqm
(near San Agustin Chapel)
Sitio Ramihan, TORIL
Min. Bid Price: P13,778,100

SAM_DAV261 VARIOUS
COMMERCIAL BLDG
LA. 6,760 sqm FA. 3,944 sqm.(near ecoland subd.)
QUIMPO BOULEVARD, Matina
Min. Bid Price: P62,541,000

SAM_DAV280 RSDL LOT
LA. 1,000 sqm.
BO. PAMPANGA
Min. Bid Price: P2,500,000

SAM_DAV281 2-STRY
HOUSE & LOT
LA. 894 sqm. FA. 90 sqm.
(near NCCC Matina Centro)
STO. NIÑO COMMUNITY
Min. Bid Price: P2,207,000

SAM_DAV284 2-STRY
HOUSE & LOT
LA. 600 sqm FA. 394.50 sqm.
(Near Indonesian Consulate Bldg., and near NCCC)
Kamuning St., JUNA SUBD.,
Matina,
Min. Bid Price:P3,206,200

SAM_DAV286 RSDL LOT
LA. 2,562 sqm
(near Pilipinosas Subd.)
SAN VICENTE, Panabo
Min. Bid Price: P640,000

SAM_DAV291 WAREHOUSE
LA. 806 sqm FA. 216 sqm.
(Near Central Bank Convention Center)ELPIDIO QUIRINO AVE.
Bgy 4, Poblacion District
Min. Bid Price: P8,060,000

SAM_DAV296 2-STRY
HOUSE & LOT
LA. 600 sqm FA. 81sqm.
(near Alliance Learning Center)
Brgy. Road, Poblacion,
NEW CORELLA
Min. Bid Price: P450,000

SAM_DAV299 INDS'L LOT
LA. 94,687 sqm
Brgy. Mahayag,
BUNAWAN DISTRICT
Min. Bid Price:P236,717,500,000

SAM_DAV300 COMM'L LOT
LA. 1,138 sqm .
(w/n Davao Business District)
MONTEVERDE AVENUE
cor. Guerrero St., Poblacion
Min. Bid Price: P17,070,000

SAM_DAV302 COMM'L LOT
LA. 980 sqm.
(w/n Davao Business District)
GUERRERO STREET, Poblacion
Min. Bid Price: P8,062,000

SAM_DAV303 RSDL LOT
LA. 68,285 sqm
GULF VIEW EXECUTIVE HOMES,
PH II, Bago Aplaya, Talomo
Lot Area Min. Bid Price
185 sqm. P 227,550
200 sqm. P 246,000

SAM_DAV304 3-STRY COMM'L / OFFICE BLDG
LA 820 sqm F.A. 1,796 sqm.
(near Davao Doctors Hospital)
SAN PEDRO ST., Poblacion
Min. Bid Price: P15,997,000

SAM_DAV305 COMM'L LOT
L.A. 1,200 sqm.
McArthur Hway / Camia Road,
Matina
Min. Bid. Price: P10,200,000

SAM_DAV307 RSD' L LOT
LA. 90,473 sqm.
(near Davao Holy Trinity)
Brgy. Road, BRGY.,
BAGO GALLERA
Min. Bid Price: P31,665,000

SAM_DAV308 RSD' L LOT
LA. 4,000 sqm.
National H-way, BAGO
Min. Bid Price: P9,461,000

SAM_DAV310 COMM'L BLDG.
LA. 157 sqm.
(near University Of Immaculate Concepcion)
Bonifacio St., STA. ANA DIST.
Min. Bid Price: P2,700,000

GENERAL SANTOS
Text 09267666746
SAM_GSC337 RSDL LOT
LA. 1,871 sqm.
(near In IGLESIA NI KRISTO)
Zone 2-C, BRGY. BULA
Min. Bid Price: P280,650

FOR MORE DETAILS, CALL THE PROPERTY FORUM PHILS., MONDAY TO SUNDAY, 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.
TEL. NOS.: (02) 534-9686 / (02) 534-9725 • CELLPHONE NO.: 0919-5649933
Show money P25,000 cash or Managers Check per property payable to STAR ASSET MANAGEMENT ROPOAS, INC. All properties for sale are on "as is where is" basis. Properties are subject to change without prior notice. The OWNER reserves the right at anytime to pull out, to correct errors in prices, terms, details & status of the properties in the event descrepancies are found.
Auction conducted by Noli "El Subastajero" Allejo
nollallejo@yahoo.com

Cecile Cuna: No stranger to business

By Claire Agbayani
Contributor

ON A FRIDAY MORNING, IT IS BUSINESS as usual for Cecile Cuna. From her desk, she spots a couple entering and inquiring at the reception area. Immediately, she stands up to introduce herself. It turns out that the couple has three children and would like to enroll them in a reading comprehension class.

After giving them a quick tour of the center and providing them all their enrollment options, Cecile sits down with a smile. She has sealed the deal.

As franchise owner of the Ahead Tutorial and Review Center in Alabang, Cecile makes it a point to personally deal with clients.

Special service

"It is our way of giving them special and quality service," she explains. "It is not enough that after they enroll in a program, you will just forget about them. What I do is I monitor their progress then I e-mail or text the parents to tell them about our observations. For instance, when I found out that the deadline for filing of the UPCAT forms was already nearing, I texted all the parents to inform them about it. They were thankful. They appreciated the way we treat the students," Cecile says.

Cecile is no stranger to business. She had a lot of experience in different kinds of entrepreneurial ventures long before she opened the tutorial and review center.

A graduate of St. Scholastica's College with a degree in BS Commerce major in Business Management, Cecile began her career as a remittance clerk for Allied Bank. After working there for several years, she decided to leave in 1988.

Back to business

She and Ricardo Cuna, who was still her boyfriend at that time, opened a business manufacturing wedding and baptismal souvenirs such as all sorts of wooden boxes and mini stuff toys. When they finally got married in 1989, Cecile decided to become a full-time housewife and mother to their two sons, Patrick and Simon.

When her sons were already going to school, Cecile went back to doing business. She and her co-parents from La Salle Zobel organized themselves to provide educational trips for students.

For two years, they brought these children to leisure farms and museums until the group decided to stop when they realized that the business entailed a lot of risks both for them and for the students. Eventually, Cecile decided she would just concentrate on arts and craft. Together with a business partner, she opened a paper clay art stall at the Alabang Town Center.

Franchise

Cecile reveals that it was actually her husband's idea to apply for a franchise of Ahead. Being the president of Association of Filipino Franchisers Inc. (AFFI), Richie knew that one of its members, Ahead, was a good business venture. He even expressed his interest in the franchise during one of AFFI's general meetings and Christmas party.

After being invited to a franchise orientation by Ahead's president Rossana L. Llenado, Richie suggested to Cecile to try it out since she had always been interested in getting into a business that is school-related and involves young people.

Reluctant

"I was reluctant at first," Cecile confesses. "It was a big investment and I was used to working with partners. If we decide to push through, I had no idea how I'd manage it alone," she said.

Aside from her reluctance, Cecile was met with other challenges. It turned out that she was not the only one applying for a franchise in Alabang and she was required to take a franchise suitability test.

"I almost gave up. I didn't know I had to take a suitability test. I thought that after paying the franchise fee, that was it!" she says.

Supportive

It was a good thing that she and her husband received some counsel from Butch Bartolome, a well-known franchise guru. He convinced them to continue with this venture and arranged for a meeting between Richie and Llenado.

The head management of Ahead was also very supportive during Cecile's difficult times. During her intensive training, she was assisted by an experienced team that included Llenado, Ed Corbe, the franchise director of Ahead, and other center directors.

When she was finally ready to open the center, Cecile was given two big *balikbayan* boxes full of review materials exclusively produced by Ahead for their centers. When she conducted her very first parent's orientation at Woodrose, Cecile received a lot of encouragement from Llenado, who was by her side during the occasion.

Sleepless nights

"I started the business during the peak season, in April," Cecile recalls. "During the first days, I had sleepless nights. I was alone here. I only had my children to help me entertain walk-in clients, but somehow I survived without a landline and a computer," she adds.

Cecile recounts how a lot of parents were very eager to enroll their children to the center as soon as they heard that there was an Ahead opening in the area.

Aside from the two full-time tutors and one branch coordinator, Cecile got a lot of support from her family. Though he is very busy running the Milkin Corp., the manufacturer of Fiorgelato Ice Cream, Richie gives her some advice on running the business especially when it comes to finances.

Children's help

During the summer break, their children Patrick, 15, and Simon, 11, assisted her at the center. Patrick was her runner: he did the errands at the grocery and bought supplies. Simon manned the computer. The two even put up a snack bar inside the center selling chips and bottled drinks to the reviewees.

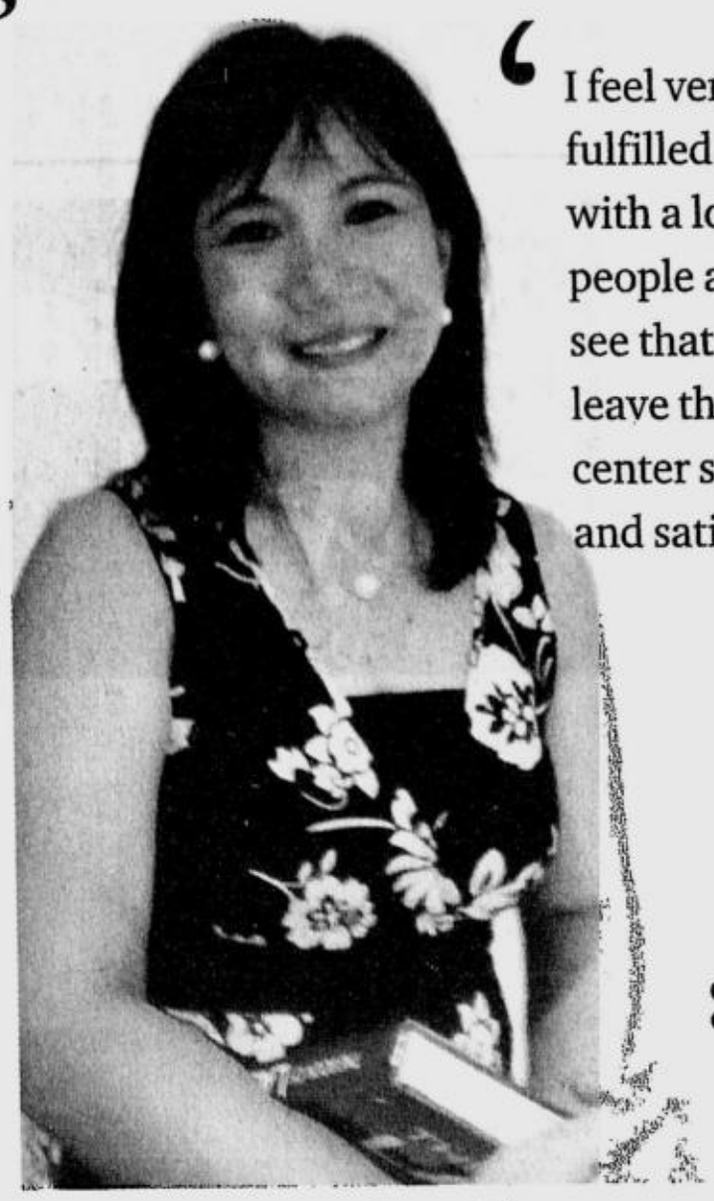
Owing to the good reputation of the company, Cecile didn't have trouble getting clients. Students from Alabang and other neighboring cities and towns such as Parañaque, Cavite, Bicutan, Laguna and Batangas no longer had to travel a long distance to Quezon City to attend a good tutorial and review class.

Though the results of the review classes are yet to be seen as the center's reviewers are only about to take their first entrance exam this August, Cecile is very much satisfied and happy with the way things are going. After three months of operation, Cecile has already developed close ties with the students of the center—not to mention their parents.

Buddies

There is an Ahead Alabang Friendster and Multiply account to keep in touch with the students. Some often come back to visit and say that they miss going to their review classes.

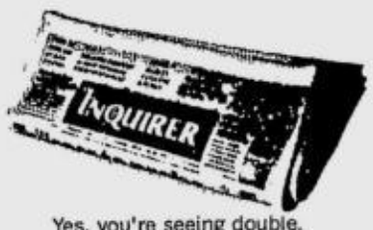
"We have become buddies. We see each other at the mall and they greet me, 'Hi Tita!'" she says. "I feel very fulfilled. I deal with a lot of people and I see that they leave the center smiling and satisfied. This business has given me a chance to prove my worth."



CECILE Cuna

> "I feel very fulfilled. I deal with a lot of people and I see that they leave the center smiling and satisfied."

Inquirer is number one.



Yes, you're seeing double.
Two reputable research agencies, Synovate and Nielsen, have confirmed that Inquirer is number one based on their non-commissioned surveys.

Thank you.

Source: All English Daily Readers in Greater Manila Area, read yesterday. Base: Synovate Media Atlas 2006-2007 (combined Waves 1-4).
Source: Nielsen Media Index 2007 Wave 1. Based on urban national yesterday broadsheet readers.

Velvet-Covered Bricks

A LEADER'S WAY

John C. Maxwell

AS A CHILD, WHEN I MISBEhaved, I was sure to receive "The Look" from my father. I have vivid memories of the furrowed eyebrows and pursed lips of The Look. It makes me shudder just to remember it.

The Look could cut right through my body and penetrate into my soul. There was nothing comforting about The Look, and, invariably, it signaled impending disciplinary measures. The Look was to be respected, The Look was to be feared, and, above all, The Look was to be avoided.

However, just as I can recall The Look, I also remember the tenderness of my father's care after he disciplined me.

I remember the whispered assurances of his love for me. I remember the warmth of his embrace as he held me in his arms. I remember his tenderness as he gently explained why I had been disciplined and how I could learn from the experience.

He was not mean-spirited or severe in his discipline; rather, his loving correction was intended to develop me into a man of character.

Leaders, like my father, must balance toughness and tenderness.

My friend, Tim Elmore, describes these leaders as Velvet-Covered Bricks. They are firm and strong on the inside, but soft and pleasant on the outside.

This week, I would like to discuss the qualities that make a leader into a Velvet-Covered Brick. I am indebted to Tim Elmore for many of the thoughts in this lesson.

•Tough but tender

Some leaders are so tough they could chew nails, but their insensitivity prevents them from connecting with their employees. Ignorant of the emotions around them, they rely on authority and scare tactics to earn the allegiance of their team.

Other leaders go the extra mile to earn the admiration of those they lead. They love to be seen as the "good guy," and they go soft on their team. To protect their popularity, they sacrifice healthy confrontation or neglect holding employees accountable.

A Velvet-Covered Brick leader makes difficult decisions, but at the same time, they act as emotional caretakers to the people their choices affect. They instill discipline, but they also provide encouragement and inspiration.

•Confront problems but consider perspectives

Velvet-Covered Brick leaders are not afraid to deal with conflict in order to iron out an unhealthy situation. By actively addressing problems, they are peacemakers as opposed to peacekeepers.

At the same time, such a leader remains open to the perspective of others. Although supremely confident, a wise leader knows the fallibility of his or her judgment, and they turn an attentive ear to those who share differing opinions.

•Committed to results and committed to relationships

Leaders with a Velvet-Covered Brick mentality refuse to compromise goals or take the easy road out of tough spots. They relentlessly set the bar high so that the team achieves its potential.

Yet, all the while, leaders value people just as much as productivity. They never sacrifice relationships simply to get results

•Professional and personal

The Velvet-Covered Brick type of leader maintains an aura of professionalism in the workplace at all times. Such a leader stays poised in the most heated moments and keeps control of his or her emotions.

While approachable, they reserve part of themselves (their fears, knowledge, insights) so that they can effectively motivate the team from a place of authority.

At the same time, leaders don't want to come across as aloof, distant or plastic. The best leaders are warm, genuinely interested in their teammates and intentional in understanding what makes each person unique. Additionally, to connect with the team, they may show selectively disclose information about themselves or even let down their emotional guard during a meeting.

•Take criticism and serve the critic

Leaders who aspire to be Velvet-Covered Bricks develop thick skin and bypass the desire to retaliate against critics. Instead, they graciously accept criticism and welcome confrontation.

Then, they take pains to win over their critics by reaching out them. They go the extra mile to wade through conflict until resolution can be reached.

•Respected and approachable

A leader earns respect on the basis of what he or she has done. More often than not, respect is gained on difficult ground. Adverse circumstances test the mettle of a leader and show a leader's true merit.

For a Velvet-Covered Brick leader, respect is balanced by approachability. An approachable leader has a consistent mood, is quick to forgive, willing to apologize and shows authenticity.

A leader at ease with himself puts others at ease. Secure leaders aren't constantly seeking validation from others, and, as such they are free to add value to those they lead rather than deriving value from the approval of those around them.

People are drawn to leaders who value them. They will approach a leader who makes them feel encouraged, helps them grow and treats them honestly.

(For information on John Maxwell's in-house or public leadership or teamwork workshops, please e-mail us at bingericta@gmail.com or call 813-2049/2732 and ask for Jesi or Bing. Text MAXWELL ON to 4632 (Smart) to get daily SMS leadership insights from John Maxwell.)

RAYMUND Magdaluyo

Raymund's concept restos

By Marlet D. Salazar
Photos by Eugene Araneta

YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR RAYMUND MAGdaluyo seems to have a Midas touch, what with all the 19 restaurants he has put up in only seven years. Specializing mostly in seafood and crabs, the food joints are a big hit to the food-loving public.

Magdaluyo is only 34 years old but slowly creating a chain of seafood restaurants within Metro Manila. The Seafood Club by Red Crab in Greenbelt 3 is one of the most successful among his business ventures and has attracted people from all walks of life.

In 1998, Magdaluyo took over the reins of managing and operating Red Crab and Seafood Club from his mother who started the business at Mimosa Leisure Park in Clark, Pampanga. The maiden restaurant is now being run by Magdaluyo's sister with the help of their mother.

Their entry to the Metro Manila market came when a family friend who owned another restaurant in Malate offered the place to the Magdaluyos.

Full control

In the beginning, Magdaluyo was happy just helping out running the business. Realizing that he was enjoying the daily work it requires, he asked his mother if he could take full control of the business. Soon after, he left his job as a researcher at the Asian Institute of Management.

Magdaluyo is a graduate of management economics from the Ateneo de Manila University and was contemplating on becoming an urban development practitioner when he took up a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning at the London School of Economics in 1997.

Even with no formal education as a restaurateur, Magdaluyo finds himself putting up one food joint after another in almost every mall coming out in the metropolis.

"I felt that I kind of know what buttons to push," Magdaluyo said of the success of his ventures.

Different concepts

After one year since he took over the business, he immediately went to expanding the chain of restaurants. But instead of building up one brand name, he opted to create different personalities and concepts that will cater to diverse markets. Magdaluyo's idea of coming up with different concept restaurants proved to be an effective marketing approach.

Although categorized either as fine-dining or fast food, the concept restaurants are all geared for family and group gatherings. He also captured all market segments with restaurants offering grilled and Asian dishes at reasonable price margins.

From Malate, he put up Red Crab and Seafood Club in the malls. It was followed by Crustasia at the Rockwell Power Plant in Makati and The Podium in Ortigas Center, Pasig.

MAGDALUYO with his staff

He also had a hand in putting up his wife's Spanish restaurant called Paloma.

Experimental

The first outlets follow the original concept of specializing on crabs and seafood. The rest are purely experimental and from ideas he gathered in traveling.

He recently toured key cities in the United States for the "3,000-mile barbecue tour." His group is toying with the concept of contemporary American cuisine beyond burgers and fries.

The first non-seafood restaurant Magdaluyo and group put up is Heaven n' Eggs with outlets in Eastwood, Glorietta and Tomas Morato. The cool interiors of Cocorama in Shangri-La mall remind people of an American diner.

The other restaurants which Magdaluyo put up with his partners are Clawdaddy Crabhouse and American Grill, Hula Hula Seafood and Barbecue House, Blackbeard's Seafood Island, and The Red Crab.

He believes a serious restaurateur needs to develop good taste not only on food but also in managing an organization.

While the business is growing, Magdaluyo partnered with some friends to open more restaurants. One is Sumo-Sam at Shangri-La Plaza Mall in Mandaluyong with movie and TV personality Marvin Agustin as one of the partners.

Advantage

"I don't want to team up with anybody who is just in for the money," he said. "Some of my managers are converted to partners because we share the same passion and can give additional wisdom, energy and network."

His young age work to his advantage in understanding the "next batch of spenders" according to Magdaluyo who completed his Masters in Entrepreneurship at the Asian Institute of Management in 2003. "We are more attuned to what the 17-25-year-olds want."

He pointed out that although managing a business entails a certain level of confidence and maturity, there are a number of benefits in starting out young.

"First, you don't have a family yet which makes you bolder in your decisions," he said. "And the younger you are, the more aggressive the energy level and drive is."

Even if the prospects look promising, Magdaluyo advises others that if they want to venture in the food business, "first is to incubate. Start in a place that is decent to gain decent revenues."

He also believes that instead of drowning yourself in loans, it is better to bootstrap or make do with whatever you have. "You don't have to own to control," he said.

"Start small but come up with a new concept," he explained, "And when you set up the second store, that is where you are in liberty to spend and experiment."

People business

With the management group, Magdaluyo also formed a research and development team that will focus on creating "Filipino global cuisine." He also has culinary experts headed by two young chefs concentrating on American, Asian Continental, Island and Filipino dishes.

Magdaluyo notes that the restaurant business is also a people business. That is why the front liners must learn to love serving the customers. And it has to start with the management team.

"You must treat and pay them well," he said. "Here, we treat each other like family."

'Gawad Saka' awards top coco scientist

From page B8

Unfortunately, the orchids were devastated by the Mayon volcano eruptions and the typhoons that hit the province late last year.

"I used to have around 2,000 butterfly orchids and 6,000 anthuriums," Rillo recalled.

As an eldest child, mother, grandmother, and plant researcher, she said she was used to prioritizing and providing for others, even if it meant staying in the background.

"Plant study requires patience and time. Mostly, it will be people in the future who will enjoy the fruits of your labor. In effect, you always have to go beyond yourself and put other people before you," she said.

Vision

Rillo hoped that her ECM research will propel the country to the fore of an emerging makapuno industry, with the Bicol region as the biggest supplier.

Makapuno is considered a "mutant" coconut due to its soft, jelly-like meat, which tends to fill up the whole nut.

It is conventionally grown using a "kabuwig," non-makapuno nuts borne together in bunch with a makapuno nut, in the hopes that they will yield makapuno.

However, this hit-and-miss method has proven to be low yielding.

For this reason, Rillo's high-yielding ECM technique has snowballed into the star project of the PCA-ARC.

"It's now possible to achieve purely-makapuno bunches from ECM palms when they are planted together and isolated from other coconut palms," Rillo said.

At present, government and private embryo culture laboratories are producing ECM seedlings in Albay, Cavite, Pangasinan, Leyte, Davao, Zamboanga, Tiaong, and Lipa.

Rillo said the DOST had also funded significant ECM plantings in Davao, Zamboanga, Tacloban, Pangasinan, Albay and Cavite.

She added that the most productive plantations with laboratories today are the private Philhybrid Farm in Los Baños and the Philippine Coconut Research and Development Foundation Farm in Pasig.

Bicol currently has the biggest ECM plantation in the country, totaling around 82 hectares across the provinces, she said.

"I'm sure there will be a makapuno industry. It will bring diversity to our coconut products and it will be something that's unique to the Philippines," Rillo said.

Rillo's team has also been continuously monitoring the 17 coconut clones they have already planted in their field.

RILLO hopes her research will propel the country to the fore of an emerging macapuno industry, with Bicol as the biggest supplier.

Although the procedure only has a 10-percent yield now, Rillo remains optimistic of the study's progress and potentials.

"The cloning protocol has yet to be perfected and the clone fields evaluated over the years, but given that coconut is a very difficult crop, I still consider the development a breakthrough," she said.

Rillo has no plans of abandoning her research endeavors even after retirement.

She plans to use the P1 million project grant from her Award to develop an irrigation system for a makapuno plantation in an area hit by a dry spell every year.

"People are laughing at me again and saying it's a ridiculous idea. But I've actually seen it being done in Thailand and China so why can't we? It could prove useful, especially in the hot and dry regions of our country," she said.

She added if an irrigation system could be developed for coconut, the area between palms could be utilized for other crops at the same time, in effect, maximizing the use of land for high-value crops.

"Everything else we seem to import, but when it comes to coconuts, other countries look to us as their source," she pointed out.

ASEAN

40th Ministerial Meeting
14th Regional Forum

Manila 29 July - 2 August 2007

One Caring and Sharing Community

RP hosts 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM)

Post Ministerial Conferences and 14th ASEAN Regional Forum also slated at PICC

Capping its year-long chairmanship of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Philippines is proud to host the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), the Post Ministerial Conferences (PMC), the 14th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and related meetings at the Philippine International Convention Center from July 29 to August 2, 2007.

These meetings will build upon and advance the landmark decisions of the 12th ASEAN Summit, the 2nd East Asia Summit and other related summits that were held under the Chairmanship of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in Cebu last January.

The AMM is the annual regular meeting of the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN member-countries Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. The 40th AMM will be held on July 30.

The PMC's are the annual meetings between the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and their counterparts from the ten Dialogue Partners of ASEAN, namely, Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russia and the United States of America. At the Manila meetings on August 1, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers will meet their counterparts from Australia, Canada, the European Union, New Zealand, Russia and the United States. The meetings with the Foreign Ministers of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and India took place at the sidelines of the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu last January.

The ARF is the only forum in the Asia-Pacific dedicated to addressing regional and international security issues. The 14th ARF will be held on August 2 and bring together the Foreign Ministers of the ten ASEAN countries, the Foreign Ministers of the ten Dialogue Partners and the Foreign Ministers of Bangladesh, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste. The 14th ARF will welcome Sri Lanka to the forum; bringing the number of ARF participating countries to 27.

There will also be a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the ASEAN Plus Three (APT --ASEAN plus China, Japan and the Republic of Korea), as well as a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the countries participating in the East Asia Summit (EAS -- ASEAN plus Australia, China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and New Zealand).

"One Caring and Sharing Community"

The theme of the 40th AMM/PMC/14th ARF will be "One Caring and Sharing Community," the same theme of the 12th ASEAN Summit. This theme reflects the Philippine commitment to ensure that ASEAN will remain an organization that cares for all its peoples, that places them at the center of the region's community-building vision, that protects the environment and improves their quality of life, and that shares in both the efforts for and the benefits from greater regional integration and cooperation.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers at the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu

The 40th AMM will adopt measures to implement key decisions of the 12th ASEAN Summit. This includes the commitments contained in the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers. ASEAN is expected to agree on steps that member states can take to help one another's nationals in conflict or crisis situations around the world.

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers will also propose that August 8 be declared as an ASEAN Special Day in all ASEAN member countries, to mark the 40th anniversary of the organization's founding.

Expanding Regional Cooperation

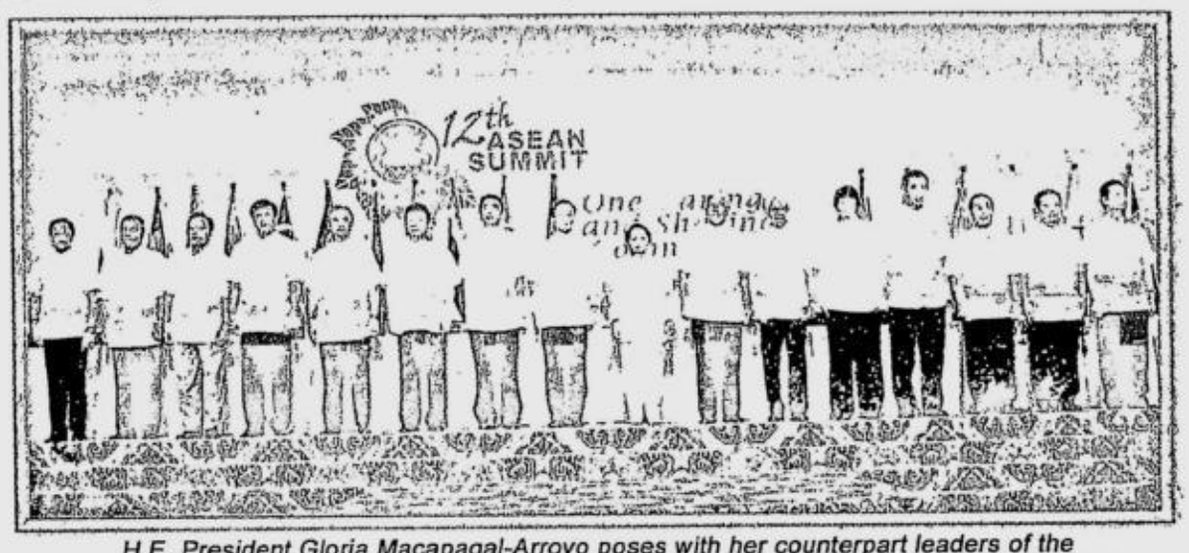
ASEAN will again take the initiative to broaden and deepen regional cooperation with its Dialogue Partners. Two important documents will be signed by the Foreign Ministers – the Joint Declaration on ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Partnership Agreement, and the ASEAN-Russia Framework Agreement for Cultural Cooperation. Two separate Plans of Action for ASEAN-Canada and ASEAN-European Union cooperation - will also be adopted.

H.E. Pres. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo Chair of the 12th ASEAN Summit, will keynote the opening of the 40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting

The ASEAN Charter

One of the highlights of the 40th AMM will be the submission of the First Draft of the ASEAN Charter, which brings ASEAN one step closer to becoming a rules-based regional organization with an international legal personality. The Charter will enshrine ASEAN's principles, values and norms. It will prepare the Association to face the challenges of a changing world.

The High-Level Task Force (HLTF) on the Drafting of the ASEAN Charter, established at the 12th ASEAN Summit and headed by Ambassador Rosario G. Manalo of the Philippines, will submit the First Draft of the ASEAN Charter to the ASEAN Foreign Ministers for their consideration. The Final Draft will be presented for adoption to the ASEAN Leaders during the 13th ASEAN Summit in Singapore in November 2007.



H.E. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo poses with her counterpart leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members countries and ASEAN's dialogue partners.

SEANWFZ Commission

Another landmark event of the 40th AMM will be the convening of the Commission for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (SEANWFZ Commission). The Meeting will review the progress in the implementation of the SEANWFZ Treaty since it entered into force in 1997. The Ministers will also adopt a Plan of Action that will strengthen the implementation of the Treaty, which should remain an important and relevant instrument in preserving regional peace and security.

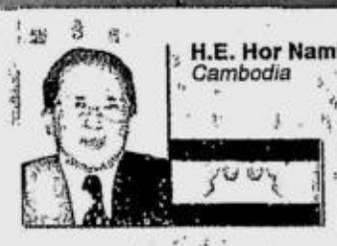
From Confidence-building to Preventive Diplomacy

The 14th ARF will address security concerns, such as the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, pandemics, and disaster mitigation and response. Mechanisms to support and enhance the role of the ARF Chair in dealing with emergency and crisis situations are on the table. Concrete and practical cooperative activities such as live exercises in the field of disaster relief are also on the agenda. These developments will strengthen the ARF's role in promoting regional confidence-building and preventive diplomacy.

ASEAN Foreign Ministers

HRH Prince Mohamed Bolkiah
Brunei Darussalam

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan
Land area : 5,765 sq.km
Population : 370,100 (2005)
Language : Malay, English
Religion : Islam
Currency : B$ (Bruneian Dollar)
GDP : US$ 6.3 billion (2005)



H.E. Hor Namhong
Cambodia

Capital : Phnom Penh
Land area : 181,035 sq.km
Population : 13.7 million (2005)
Language : Khmer
Religion : Buddhism
Currency : Riel
GDP : US$ 5.5 billion (2005)

Philippines

H.E. Dr. Alberto G. Romulo
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Chairman of the 40th AMM / 14th ARF

Capital : Manila
Land area : 300,000 sq. km.
Population : 84.2 million (2005)
Language : Pilipino, English
Religions : Roman Catholic, Christianity, Islam
Currency : Peso
GDP : US$97.7 billion (2005)

H.E. Dr. Nur Hassan Wirajuda
Indonesia

Capital : Jakarta
Land area : 1,890,000 sq.km.
Population : 220.0 million (2005)
Language : Bahasa Indonesia
Religion : Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism
Currency : Rupiah
GDP : US$ 280.3 billion (2005)

H.E. Thongloun Sisoulith
Lao PDR

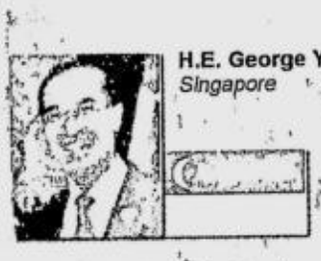
Capital : Vientiane
Land area : 236,800 sq.km
Population : 6.0 million (2005)
Language : Lao
Religion : Buddhism
Currency : Kip
GDP : US$ 3.7 billion (2005)

H.E. Dato' Seri Syed Hamid Bin Syed Jaafar Albar
Malaysia

Capital : Kuala Lumpur
Land area : 330,257 sq.km
Population : 26.1 million (2005)
Language : Melayu, English, Chinese, Tamil
Religion : Islam, Buddhism, Taoism, Hinduism, Christianity
Currency : Malaysian Ringgit
GDP : US$ 130.7 billion (2005)

H.E. U Nyan Win
Myanmar

Capital : Yangon
Land area : 676,577 sq.km
Population : 56.0 million (2005)
Language : Myanmar
Religion : Buddhism, Christianity, Islam
Currency : Myanmar Kyat
GDP : US$ 5.9 billion (2005) at current market prices



H.E. George Yeo
Singapore

Capital : Singapore
Land area : 697.1 sq.km
Population : 4.4 million (2005)
Language : English, Malay, Mandarin, Tamil
Religion : Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Taoism and Hinduism
Currency : Singapore Dollar (S$)
GDP : US$116.7 billion (2005)

H.E. Nitya Pibulsonggram
Thailand

Capital : Bangkok
Land area : 513,254 sq.km
Population : 64.8 million (2005)
Language : Thai
Religion : Buddhism, Islam
Currency : Baht
GDP : US$ 176.6 billion (2005)

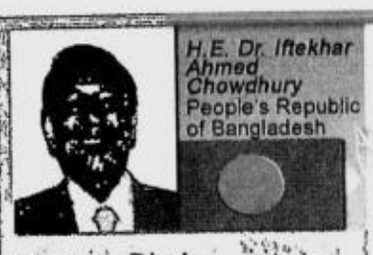
H.E. Pham Gia Khiem
Vietnam

Capital : Ha Noi
Land area : 330,363 sq.km
Population : 83.1 million (2005)
Language : Vietnamese
Religion : Buddhism, Christianity
Currency : Dong
GDP : US$ 52.8 billion (2005)

Ministers Attending
40th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting
14th ASEAN Regional Forum

H.E. Alexander Downer
Australia

Capital : Canberra
Land area : 7.7 million sq km (2.9 million sq miles)
Population : 20.6 million (official estimate, 2006)
Major Language : English
Major Religion : Christianity
Monetary Unit : 1 Australian dollar = 100 cents
Main exports : Ores and metals; wool, food and live animals; fuels, transport machinery and equipment
Per Capita Income : US $32,220 (World Bank, 2006)



H.E. Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury
People's Republic of Bangladesh

Capital : Dhaka
Land area : 143,998 sq km (55,598 sq miles)
Population : 152.6 million (UN, 2005)
Major Language : Bengali
Major Religion : Islam, Hinduism
Monetary Unit : 1 taka = 100 paisa
Main exports : Garments, fish, jute goods, leather products
Per Capita Income : US $470 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Leonard J. Edwards
Canada

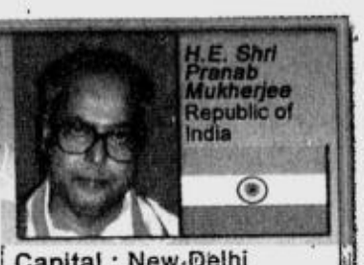
Capital : Ottawa
Land area : 9.9 million sq km (3.8 million sq miles)
Population : 32 million (UN, 2005)
Major Languages : English, French (both official)
Major Religion : Christianity
Monetary Unit : 1 Canadian dollar = 100 cents
Main exports : Machinery and equipment, automotive products, metals and plastics, forestry products, agricultural and fishing products, energy products
Per Capita Income : US $32,600 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Yang Jiechi
China

Capital : Beijing
Land area : 9.6 million sq km (3.7 million sq miles)
Population : 1.3 billion (via UN, 2006)
Major Language : Mandarin Chinese
Major Religion : Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Taoism
Monetary Unit : 1 Renminbi (yuan) (Y) = 10 jiao = 100 fen;
Main exports : Manufactured goods, including textiles, garments, electronics, arms
Per Capita Income : US $1,740 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Javier Solana
European Union

The European Union (EU) is a family of democratic European countries, committed to working together for peace and prosperity.
The EU is, in fact, unique. Its member states have set up common institutions to which they delegate some of their sovereignty so that decisions on specific matters of joint interest can be made European level.
27 countries cover a large part of the continent of Europe, with half a billion in population.
In all EU countries, over 60% of GDP is generated by the servive sector. (this includes things such as banking, tourism, transport and insurance.

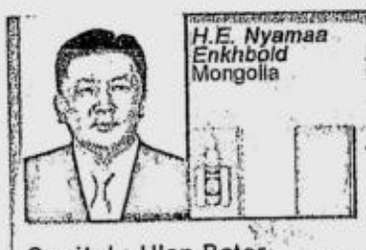


H.E. Shri Pranab Mukherjee
Republic of India

Capital : New Delhi
Land area : 3.1 million sq km (1.2 million sq miles)
Population : 1.1 billion (UN, 2005)
Major Languages : Hindi, English and at least 16 other official languages
Major Religions : Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, Jainism
Monetary Unit : 1 Indian Rupee = 100 paise
Main exports : Agricultural products, textile goods, gems and jewellery, software services and technology, engineering goods, chemicals, leather products
Per Capita Income : US $720 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Taro Aso
Japan

Capital : Tokyo
Land area : 377,864 sq km (145,894 sq miles)
Population : 127.7 million (via UN, 2006)
Major Language : Japanese
Major Religions : Shintoism, Buddhism
Monetary Unit : yen
Main exports : Vehicles, computer parts, chemicals, scientific instruments and watches
Per Capita income : US $38,980 (World Bank, 2006)



H.E. Nyamaa Enkhbold
Mongolia

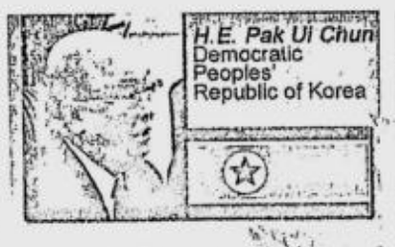
Capital : Ulan Bator
Land area : 1.56 million sq km (603,909 sq miles)
Population : 2.6 million (via UN, 2006)
Major Language : Mongolian
Major Religion: Buddhism
Monetary Unit : 1 Togrog (tugrik) = 100 mongos
Main exports : Copper concentrate, dehaired cashmere, textiles, hides
Per Capita Income : US $690 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Paul Tiensten
Independent State of Papua New Guinea

Capital : Port Moresby
Land area : 462,840 sq km (178,704 sq miles)
Population : 5.9 million (UN, 2005)
Major Language : English (official), Pidgin, native languages
Major Religions : Christianity, indigenous beliefs
Monetary Unit : 1 kina = 100 toea
Main exports : Gold, petroleum, copper, coffee, palm oil, logs
Per Capita Income : US $660 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Winston Peters
New Zealand

Capital : Wellington
Largest City Auckland
Land area : 270,534 sq km (104,454 sq miles)
Population : 4.1 million (Statistics New Zealand,2006)
Major Languages : English, Maori
Major Religion : Christianity
Monetary Unit : 1 New Zealand dollar ($NZ) = 100 cents
Main exports : Wool, food and dairy products, wood and paper products
Per Capita Income : US $25,960 (World Bank, 2006)



H.E. Pak Ui Chun
Democratic Peoples' Republic of Korea

Capital : Pyongyang
Land area : 122,762 sq km (47,399 sq miles)
Population : 22.9 million (UN, 2005)
Major Language : Korean
Major Religions : Mainly atheist or non-religious, traditional beliefs
Monetary Unit : 1 won = 100 chon
Main exports : Minerals and metals, cement, agricultural products

H.E. Khurshid M. Kasuri
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Capital : Islamabad
Land area : 796,095 sq km (307,374 sq miles), excluding Pakistani-administered Kashmir (83,716 sq km/32,323 sq miles)
Population : 161.1 million (UN, 2005)
Major Languages : English, Urdu, Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashto, Baloch
Major Religion: Islam
Monetary Unit : 1 Pakistani Rupee = 100 paisa
Main exports : Textile products, rice, cotton, leather goods
Per Capita Income : US $690 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Sergey Lavrov
Russian Federation

Capital : Moscow
Land area : 17 million sq km (6.6 million sq miles)
Population : 143.8 million (via UN, 2006)
Major Language : Russian
Major Religions: Christianity, Islam
Monetary Unit : 1 rouble = 100 kopecks
Main exports : Oil and oil products, natural gas, wood and wood products, metals, chemicals, weapons and military equipment
Per Capita income : US $4,460 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Rohitha Bogollagama
Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Capital : Colombo
Land area : 65,610 sq km
Population : 20,926,315 million
Major Languages : Sinhala
Major Religions: Buddhist
Monetary Unit : Sri Lanka rupee
Main exports : textiles and apparel, tea and spices; diamonds, emeralds, rubies; coconut products, rubber manufactures, fish
Per Capita Income : $4,700 (2006 est.)

H.E. Song Min-Soon
Republic of Korea

Capital : Seoul
Land area : 99,313 sq km (38,345 sq miles)
Population : 48.2 million (UN, 2005)
Major Language : Korean
Major Religions : Buddhism, Christianity
Monetary Unit : won
Main exports : Electronic products, machinery and transport equipment
Per Capita Income : US $15,830 (World Bank, 2006)

Timor-Leste

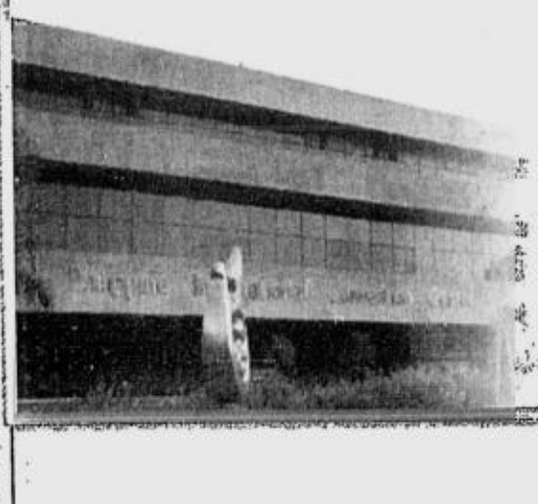
Capital : Dili
Land area : 14,609 sq km (5,641 sq miles)
Population : 857,000 (UN, 2005)
Major Languages : Tetum and Portuguese (official), Indonesian and English (working languages)
Major Religion: Christianity
Monetary Unit : 1 US dollar = 100 cents
Main exports : Coffee, marble, potential for oil exports
Per Capita Income : $750 (World Bank, 2006)

H.E. Condoleezza Rice
United States of America

Capital : Washington DC
Land area : 9.8 million sq km (3.8 million sq miles)
Largest City : New York City
Population : 300 million (US Census Bureau estimate, 2006)
Major Language : English
Major Religion: Christianity
Monetary Unit : 1 US dollar = 100 cents
Main exports : Computers and electrical machinery, vehicles, chemical products, food and live animals, military equipment and aircraft
Per Capita income : US $43,740 (World Bank, 2006)

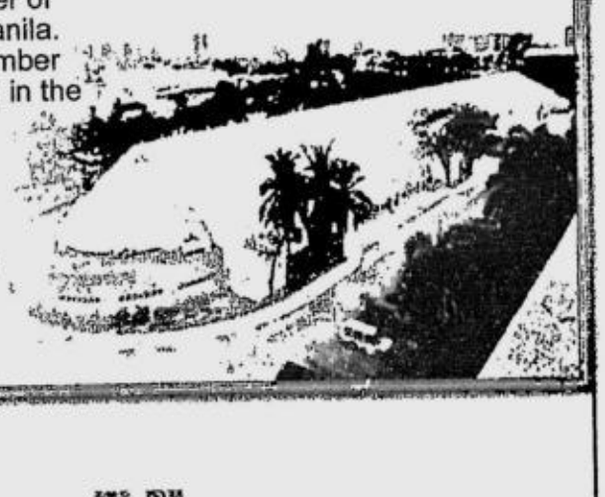
H.E. Ong Keng Yong-
Association of Southeast Asian Nation

As of 2005, ASEAN accounts for:
- More than **567 million** people or nearly a tenth of the world's population
- **4.5 million** square kilometers in total area
- a combined gross domestic product of almost **US$ 876 billion**
- a total trade of about **US$ 850 billion**
- a total of over **US$25 billion** in foreign direct investments



The ***Philippine International Convention Center (PICC)*** is located at the center of the sprawling Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) Complex in Pasay City, Metro Manila. It remains the pre-eminent convention facility in the Philippines . Inagurated on 5 September 1976, the PICC stands as Asia 's first international convention center and was first used in the hosting of the 1976 IMF-WB Meeting. It plays host to various local and international conventions, meetings, fairs and social events.

THE ***FORUM*** -Adjacent to the Plenary and Reception Halls, this novel venue that is air-conditioned bubble of sturdy PVC-engineered fabric encloses approximately 4,292 square meters. It is capable of housing more than 200 exhibit booths or 5,000 persons in a theater-style seating arrangment. This multi-functional facility is perfect for exhibitions, social functions and corporate events. **The Forum will house the International Media Center during the 40th AMM & 14th ARF.**



ASEAN NOC on the 40th AMM/PMC/14th ARF
www.40amm.org.ph

AMA Computer University · PLDT · SMART · Philippine Airlines · International Container Terminal Services, Inc. · MANILA BULLETIN · Unilever · Nestlé Good Food, Good Life

REYNALDO DE DIOS with family and relatives in these family photos.

"When you share it always comes back."

Octogenarian is insurance ...

From page B1

the Americans because we were under the Commonwealth," he explained. He chose to go back to the Philippines.

He was shocked at the devastation of Manila upon his return and lived with his mother's sister in San Juan.

After a few months, he realized he was a burden as his aunt and uncle did not have much wealth to support an extra mouth so he looked for work.

First job

His first job was with the Manila Trading and Supply Corp. (Mantrade), an American firm that assembled Ford cars.

Having been schooled in and exposed to an international environment in China, he spoke good English and was given the task of estimating damages of vehicles. He was paid P180 a month, which, in 1947, was quite big already. He used part of his pay to help his aunt.

One of his clients was British national, Kenneth Belcher, who managed an insurance agency. Belcher commented on his good English and offered him a job.

He did not accept the job immediately. When workers of Mantrade went on strike, however, and he got tired of walking around the picket line, he decided to see Belcher and accepted his offer. The job: statistics clerk. The date: June 2, 1948.

Bigger pay

But not too long on his job, Ronnie realized how much bigger the insurance agents were getting paid. "The commission from one policy was much bigger than my salary," he recalled.

He went to Belcher and asked if he could learn more about insurance. Belcher referred him to a correspondence course at the Chartered Insurance Institute of London.

At that time he was also enrolled at the San Beda College. He found the correspondence course very interesting and Belcher told him to apply whatever he learned in his job which at that time was inspecting risks.

Jealous co-workers

The young De Dios' affinity for insurance was showing very early on. This made some of his co-workers "jealous," he said, so he decided to quit his job after a year. He easily landed a job at Chelsea, a cigarette manufacturing firm, where he was paid P300 a month, way above the minimum wage then of P60.

However, he only stayed there for a few months. In December of 1949, Ronnie accepted a job in Capital Insurance that would entail moving to Cebu. His task: Open new branches and markets.

At first, Ronnie, who was barely 20 at the time, hesitated because it would mean dropping his studies at San Beda. He only decided to go after the dean of the school, whom he sought for advice, told him: "You better take it. I am only getting P300 a month."

Guidance

In Cebu, Ronnie enrolled at the San Carlos University and took up surveying and accounting. The surveying course came in handy in measuring buildings and assessing damages for surety bonds.

Sixty years later he would say: "I felt that the Holy Spirit guided me in studying the things I needed." All the things he learned were put to good use.

Ronnie succeeded in opening branches in Negros Oriental, Leyte and key areas in Mindanao. At that time, premiums cost P3,000 while car policies cost only P120. The branches brought in P50,000, a hefty sum at that time.

In 1953, he married Milagros Estacio, a Batangueña, with whom he has three children.

Another offer

Capital Insurance had thought of transferring Ronnie to Manila as their assistant manager. But he wanted to stay in Cebu and accepted a job offered by Philamlife just so he could stay there. Capital relented, and told Philamlife they could not let Ronnie go. Philamlife did not pursue its offer to Ronnie.

In recognition of Ronnie's "sacrifice," Capital took good care of him. In 1956, he was sent to attend the three-month Harvard Advanced Management Program held at the then Pines Hotel (now the site of SM Baguio). The cost: P5,000. Five Harvard professors were sent to the Philippines to teach. His classmates included Alfred Velayo, one of the founders of SGV & Co.

In 1957, he was sent to London for four months to study reinsurance. It was an on the job training program so he got to visit various insurance firms.

On his own

Ronnie stayed on with Capital until 1961 by which time he was moved to Manila.

In 1964, De Dios decided to go on his own. He became an insurance consultant. At first he was a general agent for Capital. In 1966 he went to New York for the World's Fair and joined the Insurance Buyer's Society of New York composed of finance and treasury people who meet once a month to compare how much insurance companies were charging.

FROM LEFT: his sister Marie, cousin Elvie and a young Reynaldo

His initial consulting job was introducing the concept of risk surveys where he was able to substantially bring down the insurance premium rates of big companies for their buildings.

His clients included the Central Bank, San Miguel Corp., and the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. He says his earnings just kept on growing.

Simple living

"It never ran out," he said, adding "all you needed was common sense and imagination and innovation."

More importantly, he continued to live simply to this day.

In 1970, he gave vent to a passion of his—writing. He set up a magazine called Insurance Asia. For 10 years he relied on advertising for its revenues but in the '80s, during the economic and political crisis, he sold 95 percent of the magazine to a Singaporean.

During the next decades he continued his consulting work. Today, even at 80, the World Bank and other major institutions still call on him for advice, research or simply ask him to talk about insurance.

Ronnie de Dios never finished college but his thirst for learning gave him knowledge that was way ahead of his colleagues in the insurance industry.

"I kept abreast. I traveled a lot. I have attended more than 60 international conferences," he said.

No to retirement

Having gone on his own instead of the corporate ladder route also meant he could decide when he wants to retire. At present, he doesn't want to call it quits yet.

"My brain is still working. Many of my colleagues have died. They retired and did not do anything. I thank God for my long life."

But being the true insurance man that he is, he said, "the risk of living long is if resources are not enough to cover [the extended life]."

"So I put up my own self-fund," he said. Yet, he still manages to give. In fact instead of gifts on his birthday, he asked his guests to give to the DSWD Golden Acres Home for the Aged.

"When you share it always comes back."

Right concept, great ideas create brand power

By Marlet D. Salazar

CONSUMERS CREATE A CONnection or relationship with some icon brands. There is a fanaticism that goes with certain products.

Michael Constantine, chief executive officer of Leo Burnett, calls it engagement planning. It is a fresh approach to "engaging" consumers and make them true brand believers.

There are brands that managed to stay on top for many years. Others are reinvented to suit consumer taste and to be able to compete for their attention.

"Icon brands achieve superior growth by going beyond functional performance to build an intangible, yet not easily replicable advantage," said Constantine who is with Leo Burnett for over 25 years now.

Protective barriers

As advertising gets more competitive, brands no longer have protective barriers. The competitive advantage only lasts for seconds. There is a growing need to stay flexible as consumer profiles change from generation to generation. What is appealing to the youth today might be different to the next.

"We cannot say 'we've never done this before so we will never will,'" explained Constantine. "We cannot say 'this is how we lived in the past, this is how we are going to live in the future.'

"Everyone has admitted that consumers now don't just accept what is shoved to them. They hold the power to choose which brands will succeed or be ditched off in a matter of minutes," he said.

"This is no longer about channel marketing; it is about creating great ideas, brand essence amplified in different touch points," he added.

Leo Burnett is responsible for the winning TV commercials of McDonald's "Karen" and "Kanlungan," and the immortal image of Marlboro Man.

Leo Burnett is present in about 80 countries and is part of Publicis Groupe, the fourth largest marketing communications company in the world. Its clients are of diverse interests from beverage to food to retail to pharmaceutical.

Here, the Leo Group is represented by Leo Burnett Manila, Arc, Blackpencil Manila and Starcom Mediavest Group.

Culting of brands

Constantine said "culting of brands" or the relationship consumers has with these icon brands make people faithful patrons. No matter what the faults of the brands are, consumers will stick to it and buy another replacement of that brand instead of choosing or trying out a different one.

"This is brand belief," he said.

"It is not just about how to touch people but to put the right things in the right place," he said. "What is the idea behind that and how will it work in different media."

Constantine holds an Honors Degree in Modern Linguistics/Languages from Oxford University. He is a seasoned marketing communications professional with extensive experience in both agency and group management and top-level multinational and local client relations in Europe and Asia-Pacific.

Engagement planning creates brand experiences that inspire, enable and motivate someone to do something. To achieve this, brands need to be idea centric and make it more of an experience to consumers.

Right content

"We have to start thinking without a box," Constantine said.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Marketing now has to find the right content to add to the right context. That is remixing and mashing contacting points and is able to ignite behavior change.

The universe of touch points include radio, TV, print, Internet, outdoor, foreign press, event coverage, short messaging system, public relations and even celebrity endorsements.

The dramatic and aggressive changes in marketing and communications are prompted by the proliferation of different media and the pace of change is accelerating all the time.

Information control

"The control of information has moved," Constantine said.

Control has to do with the fragmentation of media and their availability; there is the constantly evolving technology to deal with, and the empowerment of the consumer to all of these things.

"If marketers don't accept these, they are in trouble," he said.

In the recent Cannes Lion festival, Leo Burnett bagged a silver for the Young Creatives Competition for the "Right to Play" charity print ad.

For Constantine, the biggest challenge for the company is "to keep the momentum going. We want to lead the way for diversified services."

Bad debts drive pharmacist to retail business

CONSUELO Dy of the New South Star Drug and Lucky 9 convenient store.
PHOTOS BY JUAN ESCANDOR JR./ INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

NAGA CITY—BAD DEBTS HAD driven a pharmacist to redirect a family business from wholesaling to retailing and become, in the process, one of the Philippines' top 1,000 corporations.

Consuelo Dy, a pharmacist who graduated at the University of Sto. Tomas, made a remarkable decision when she took over the reins of the South Star Drug that her father Tomas Dy Makao built in 1937 when this city was still a rustic town of Camarines Sur.

Dy revealed that when her father turned over to her the management and operation of the South Star Drug in 1973, its wholesale business had been saddled by bad debts which prompted her to write them off to turn a new phase for the family business. It was renamed New South Star Drug.

Big player

After 34 years in the drug retailing business, the New South Star Drug has become a big player with 120 stores in major towns and cities in Bicol, Quezon province, Metro Manila and Pampanga. It plans to set up more stores in the southern regions.

Dy's father built the old drug store 70 years ago, when he was still a young bachelor fresh from Fookien, China. It then sold mostly Chinese traditional medicines when branded modern medicines were still a rarity.

"My father's family owned a pharmacy in China that's why it was the business that he grew up with," Dy enthused.

The old South Star Drug grew and engaged in wholesale business with drug retailers all throughout Bicol as their clients.

But after years of operation their clients' burgeoning debts continued to pile up. Dy, who had helped her father run the business when she was still young, knew that if they themselves would retail the drugs she could help the family business overcome its financial burden and the enterprise would reach new heights.

Competitive prices

She steered the family's drug trading business to its new directions by taking advantage of their competitive prices because of direct access to suppliers of official distributors of foreign drug companies in Manila.

"It was converting our wholesale business to retail trading with the same pricing of products from our former venture," she explained.

Turning its back from drug wholesaling and leaving bad debts behind, the New South Star Drug pushed for expansion, especially since they had to contend with one big player in the drug retailing business in Bicol.

The soft-spoken Dy, who said she became very old in recharting the course of the business, confessed she had to get help from consultancy firms for technical advice on the expansion ventures and how to establish a foothold in localities.

Beyond retailing

In the 1990s, Dy said she decided to turn over to her younger siblings the management and operation of the New South Star Drug, took a leave from her duties in the family business, went to the United States on a business visa and stayed there until 1994.

She had no intention to stay in the US, however. She went there to look for new ideas and business concepts her family could embark on. After less than two years there, she returned home ready for a new venture.

Still focused on the retailing business, Dy observed that in this city no convenient store had been put up to cater to customers on a 24-hour basis and respond to consumers' needs during emergency situations like typhoons.

Drawing inspiration from convenient stores in Manila and the US, the pharmacist ventured beyond retailing drugs, entered commodity retailing and pioneered in 1995 the first 24-hour convenient store in Bicol.

Twelve years later, the pioneering venture in commodity retailing she introduced here through a prototype convenient store has evolved into another chain.

Named "Lucky 9" because her mother Magdalena Teng Dy is the ninth in the family, their convenient stores are now in three provinces in the Bicol region.

Dy confided that to be afloat in the retailing business and maintain competitive edge, one must expand and grow, otherwise competitors would one day take over.

"We target to open 20 new drugstores every year while the convenient store business has to expand to other provinces in Bicol," she said, adding that for a prototype of the convenient store they have to spend from P2 million to P3 million.

Divulging her principles in retailing business, Dy revealed that she only sells the top three brands in a product line, maintains a profit margin enough to subsidize the stores' operation and integrates service in every venture.

Civic-humanitarian cause

This pharmacist-turned-entrepreneur also busied herself in civic and humanitarian organizations. At present, she is the Bicol director of the Habitat for Humanity that brings her to depressed areas in this city and the provinces of Albay and Sorsogon to build houses for poor families.

In addition, Rotary International bestowed on her the Multiple Harris Award for "her boundless generosity that helped finance the organization's educational, environmental, health and humanitarian endeavors."

Her most recent recognition was the 2007 Halyao (an archaic Bicol for merchant) Award from Metro Naga Chamber of Commerce and Industry for her "exemplary achievement" in business that contributed to the economic growth of the region.

SHE pioneered in 1995 the first 24-hour convenient store in Bicol.

EXPANSION OPPORTUNITY

PORTA VAGA MALL

Is looking for franchises and anchor stores for its new mall in Baguio City!

Located right at the heart of Session Road - an adjacent part of the Baguio Cathedral.

For interested franchises/stores who wish to expand their stores.

CONTACT
Antonette W. Aswigui
Marketing Department
Porta Vaga Mall
Session Road, Baguio City
Tel. No. (6374)444-2999
Telefax (6374)304-0109
0917-8291981 or 0917-5071070
e-mail: portavaga1@yahoo.com.ph

The view from the top is amazing.

According to Nielsen Media Research,
Philippine Daily Inquirer is once again at the very top.
Thanks, of course to you, our readers for bringing us here.
Stay with us, we won't let you down.
To subscribe, call 896-6000.

Source: Nielsen Media Index 2007 Wave 1. Based on urban national yesterday broadsheet readers

Sunday BIZ

DR. ERLINDA P. Rillo plans to use the P1-million project grant to develop an irrigation system for coconut plantations.

PHOTOS BY NINO JESUS ORBETA INQUIRER SOUTHERN LUZON

'Gawad Saka' awards top coco scientist

Her pet project on macapuno is simply a show of initiative on her end

By Jaymee T. Gamil
Inquirer Southern Luzon

DARAGA, ALBAY—WHEN ASKED WHAT prompted her to pursue her prominent research on embryo-cultured macapuno (ECM), scientist Erlinda Paje-Rillo of the Philippine Coconut Authority Albay Research Center (PCA-ARC) simply said: "Nobody else was doing it, so I took it upon myself to do so."

She persisted on the research even when she was initially criticized by her colleagues for doing something that was not her job back then as a plant pathologist in the early 1990s.

To Rillo, it was simply a show of initiative on her end.

That same initiative she has exhibited in all her coconut research and development efforts, which are finally being lauded.

Rillo was named Outstanding Agricultural Scientist in the 2007 National Gawad Saka Awards held recently in Malacañang.

Since 1970, the awards project has been the annual nationwide search held by the Department of Agriculture for exceptional innovators in the field of farming, animal-raising and fisheries.

Out of 22 categories—most of which deal with farming and fishing on individual, community and organizational levels—only one award is reserved for a scientist.

Coco embryo

Currently the PCA Tissue Culture Division chief and ranked Scientist IV in the Department of Science and Technology, Rillo has dedicated her entire 43-year career to plant research, working for the PCA, originally the Bureau of Plant Industry, since 1964.

Rillo and her 14-man team at the PCA-ARC is most known for refining the coconut embryo-culture technology first demonstrated by Dr. Emerita de Guzman of the University of the Philippines in Los Baños in the 1960s.

The embryo-cultured macapuno protocol made it possible for the nongerminating embryo inside a macapuno nut to be transplanted and artificially grown in a specially formulated nutrient medium.

This procedure is at present the most effective way for macapuno coconut palms to be mass produced.

As a former PCA plant pathologist, Rillo had also contributed key findings regarding the transmission of the coconut diseases cadang-cadang and bud rot.

Her team is currently developing a coconut cloning technique which aims to artificially propagate coconuts from the tissues of parts such as flowers and leaves.

With only one year left before retirement, the 65-year-old joked that this year's award was somewhat overdue.

"I actually didn't think I'd be considered for the award anymore," Rillo said.

Hailing from the town of Guinobatan in Albay province, she is the first Bicolano to receive the national Outstanding Agricultural Scientist award, which comes with the Rizal Pro Patria medallion and a project grant of P1 million.

Passion for plants

Rillo described her love for plants as a natural inclination, already evident since her high school days at the Roxas Memorial Agricultural School, now the Bicol University College of Agriculture and Forestry, where she graduated valedictorian.

Rillo said that although like her, majority of her eight siblings landed in managerial positions in government offices, she was the only one who exhibited a keen interest in agriculture.

"Even my husband is related to plant study. I met him at the UP Los Baños College of Agriculture. I was studying plant fungi, he was studying plant bacteria," she said.

Her husband, Alfredo, is the PCA's regional manager for Bicol. They have two children, both in their 30s and raising their own families.

When she's not culturing coconuts, Rillo breeds orchids and ornamental plants in a personal laboratory in her home in Ligao City.

She also established the now-defunct Albay Garden Club, where she became known for her expertise on flora.

"The orchids I grew in my garden once flourished so beautifully people would even visit them just to take photos," she said.

GAWAD/ B3

DR. RILLO checks the embryo-cultured macapuno (ECM) seedlings.

PSBank U$Dollar TIME DEPOSIT

	$1,000 to 9,999	$10,000 to 49,999	$50,000 to 99,999	$100,000 and up
1 month	3.50%	3.50%	3.63%	3.75%
2 months	3.50%	3.63%	3.75%	3.88%
3 months	3.63%	3.75%	3.75%	3.88%
6 months	3.75%	3.88%	3.88%	4.00%
12 months	3.88%	4.00%	4.13%	4.25%

*Rates are subject to change without prior notice, on per annum basis and subject to 7.5% withholding tax.

Manage your account online via PSBank Remote Banking
Open a time deposit now in any of 162 branches nationwide

Text PSBANK USTD <your name> <landline no.> <email address>
then send to 391-772 for Smart or 0917-8902327 for Globe and other networks.
Visit our website at www.psbank.com.ph
Member of the PDIC. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor is P250,000.

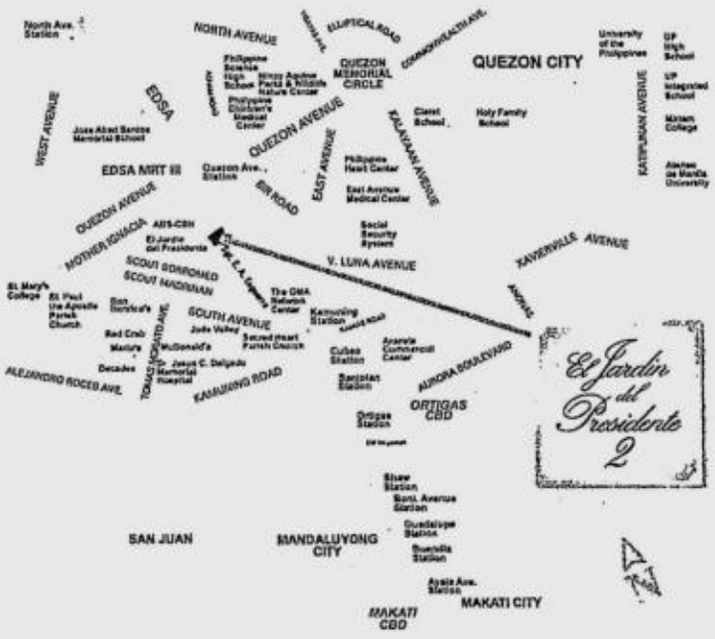
OPEN HOUSE
HURRY ONLY FEW UNITS LEFT!
Affordable & Flexible Payment Schemes!
Near UP, Ateneo, Miriam, Celebrity Sports Plaza, Broadcast City, SM City, Trinoma
MODEL UNIT IS READY FOR VIEWING
Le Lagore MANSIONS
Sovln Zuzuaregui St., Old Balara, QC
Please Call:
9268037/9253301/0918 6616517
PRIMESTATE
www.primestateventures.com

Bright Kids.
Happy Kids.
And the Best Place to Raise Them...
El Jardin del Presidente 2
Your Investment in Excellence.

An exceptional address in Quezon City that provides enriching experiences for your family: El Jardin del Presidente 2.

In this '50s-inspired address, your children come first. Executive studios to one-bedroom homes with crescent-shaped balconies enfold them in comfort. Whether they're relaxing or reading a favorite book. Fun times await them at the ground-level play area, too. Here, let them bond with friends at the swimming pools, landscaped walkways or playground. On schooldays, your children get to their classes early with UP, Ateneo and Miriam College only minutes away. And your home is excellently located close to the metro's key destinations. The MRT-3 Quezon Avenue station. The Makati and Ortigas business districts. A variety of private and government offices, hospitals and malls. And the restaurant row of Tomas Morato.

At El Jardin del Presidente 2, give your children a lifestyle close to quality learning and leisure.



Come visit the new model unit
Mondays through Sundays

P9,088 a month.
NO DOWNPAYMENT
AT ZERO INTEREST

Tel: 926-0002
E-mail:info@oceanicrealty.com.ph
For Announcement Purposes Only

Voted No. 1 Philippine Company in *FinanceAsia's* Best-managed Asian Companies Survey in 2007
www.megaworldcorp.com
ISO 9001:2000 CERTIFIED

Developer:
MEGAWORLD CORPORATION
A Member of:
ALLIANCE GLOBAL

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

sms feedback: inquirer life name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or email us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

IN THIS ISSUE

Mystics talk about why Filipinos are all over the world /D1

Models, dancers and other strangers /D3

Setting free a predator

The convicted rapist of a minor is set to be released when he turns 70. Is something wrong here?

FORMER Rep. Romeo Jalosjos, convicted of raping an 11-year-old girl, may soon be a free man, courtesy of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

By Constantino C. Tejero

NOTHING CAN MORE graphically convey the anguish of a victim than the cry of the victim herself in the rape case involving former Zamboanga del Norte Rep. Romeo Jalosjos.

"He did not listen to my cries. He ignored my tears. He raped and abused me repeatedly. He was about to buy me to be his live-in sex slave if I had not escaped. I was only 11," said the victim in a letter to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and in an open letter to the public.

Now 24 and living abroad under an assumed name, the victim, whose story was first told on the front pages of the INQUIRER, relived her ordeal 11 years ago when news came out that Jalosjos' 1997 conviction for statutory rape had been commuted.

A year after the crime happened, Jalosjos was sentenced to two life terms for raping a minor, or 40 years, with an additional 8-15 years for each of the six counts of acts of lasciviousness, plus a total of P800,000 in civil and moral damages to be paid to the girl. The conviction was affirmed with finality by the Supreme Court on Jan. 22, 2002, and his name was dropped from the list of members of the House of Representatives.

It was the Department of Justice that submitted to the Office of the President a recommendation for commutation of Jalosjos' sentence on March 12.

SETTING/ C3

The savaged child

Therapy does not remove the trauma of sexual abuse; it only teaches the child to live with it

DR. BERNIE J. Madrid of the UP-PGH Child Protection Unit PHOTOS BY RODEL ROTONI

By Anne A. Jambora

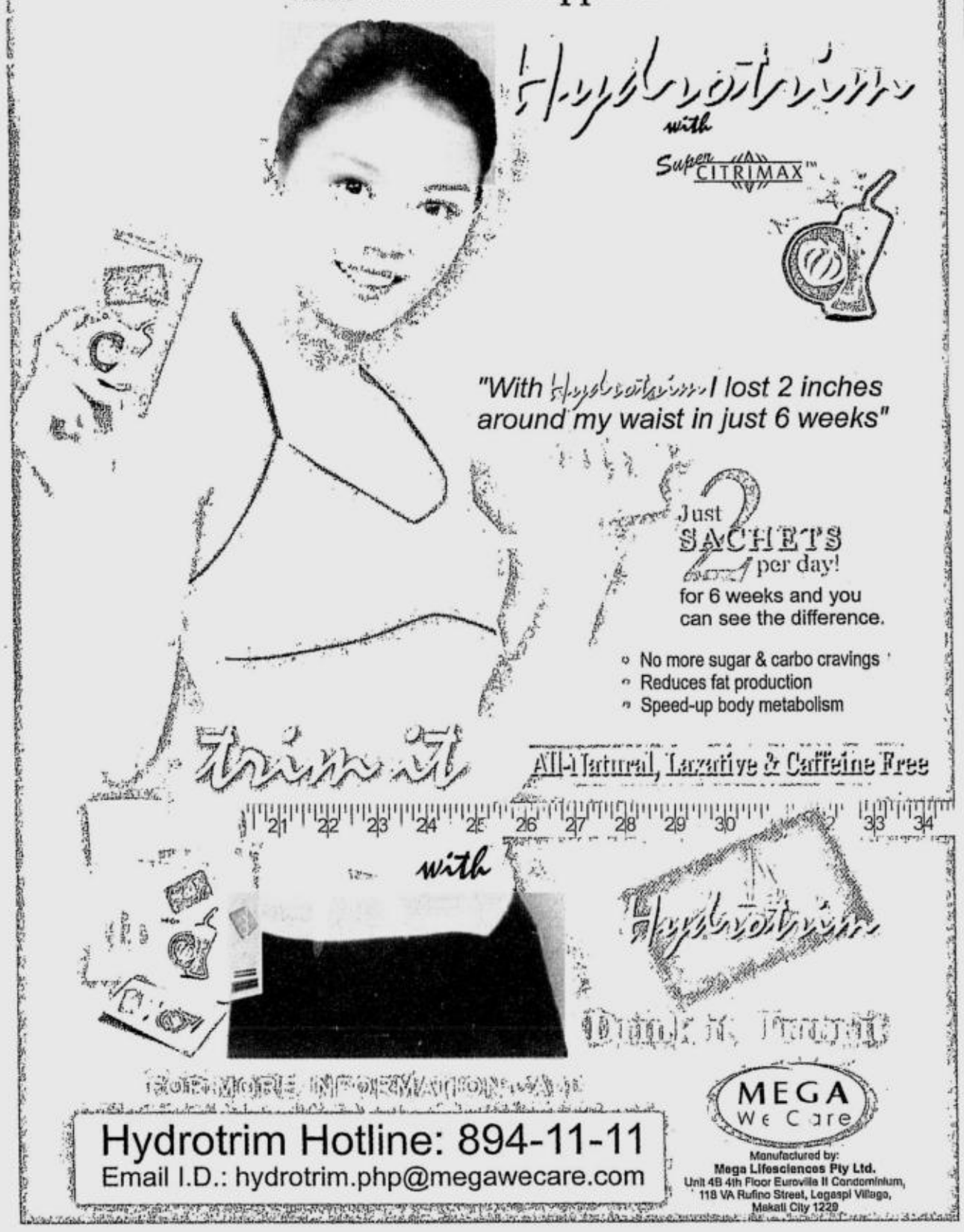
IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT THE hymen—that's just one part of sexual abuse. Sex is in the mind, not just the act," said Dr. Bernadette J. Madrid, director of the University of the Philippines Child Protection Unit (UP-CPU), Department of Pediatrics, Philippine General Hospital in Ermita, Manila.

Sexual abuse happens when a child is engaged in a sexual situation with an older

THE SAVAGED/ C2

Get Rid of "Bulbol" Fast!

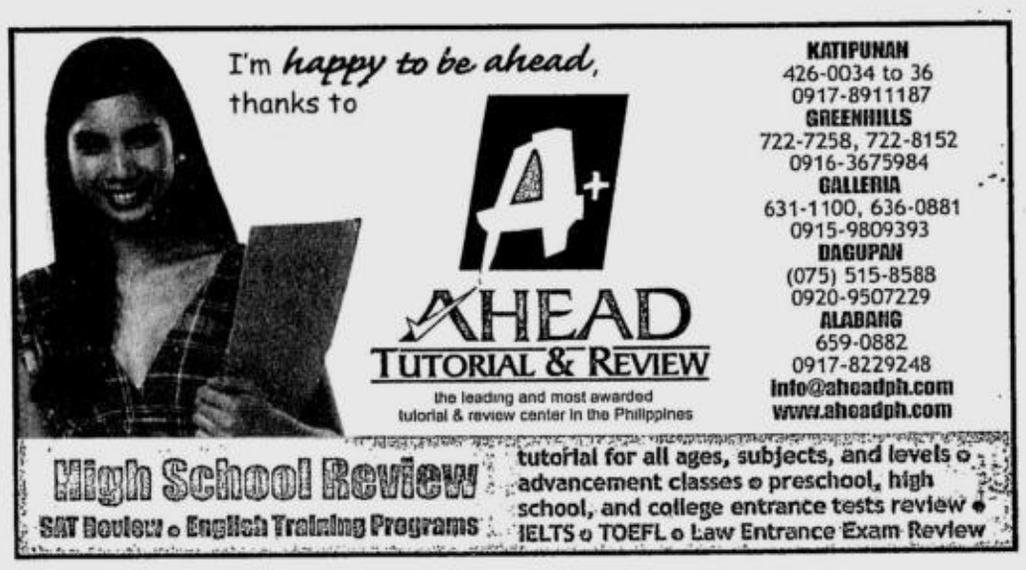
The Orange flavored drink to lose weight ...now in the Philippines

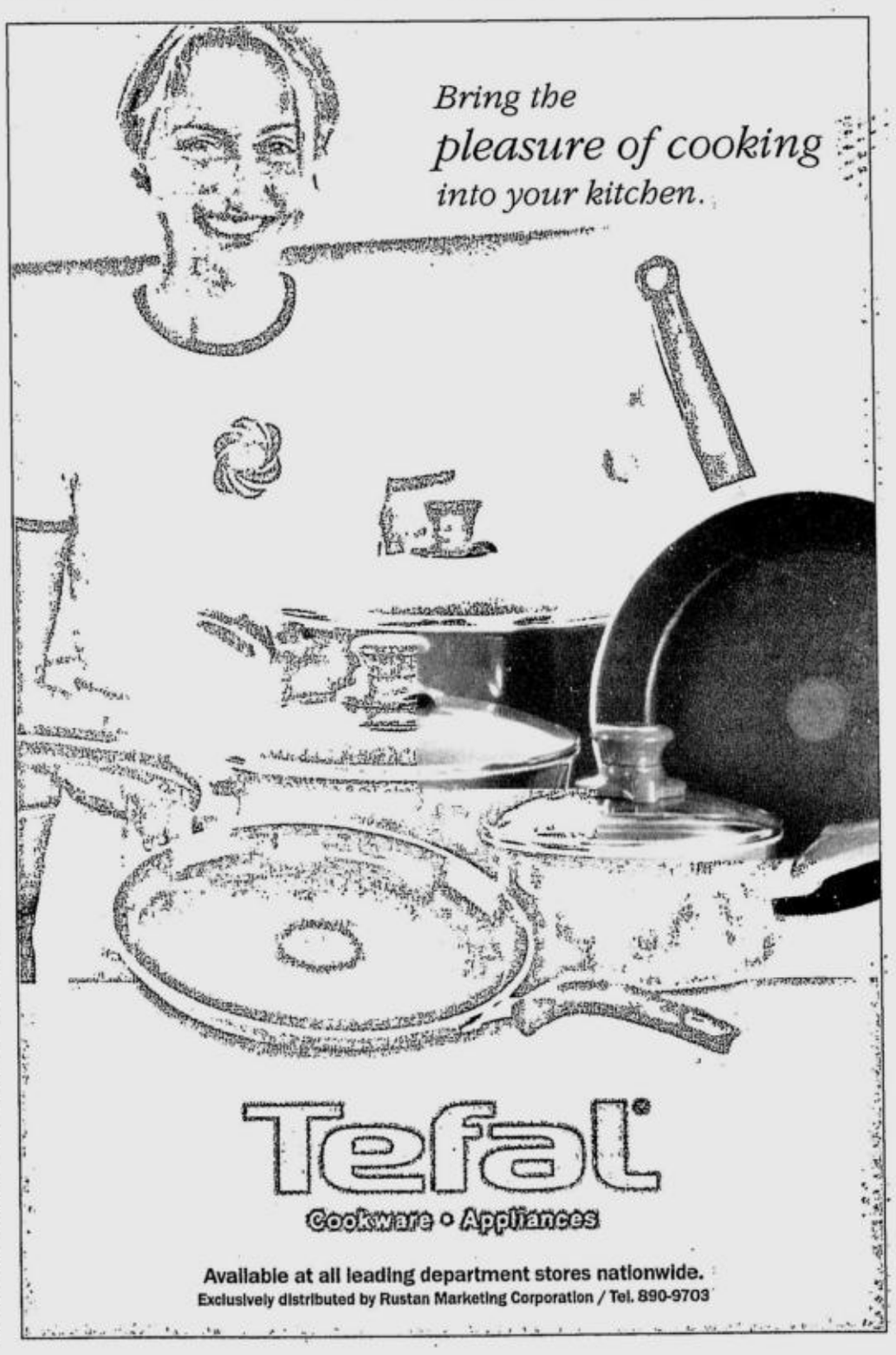


Hydrotrim Hotline: 894-11-11
Email I.D.: hydrotrim.php@megawecare.com

MEGA We Care

Manufactured by:
Mega Lifesciences Pty Ltd.
Unit 4B 4th Floor Euroville II Condominium, 118 VA Rufino Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City 1229





LG Mobile

GGreat

Connect with the things that matter the most with the first 3G phone that's truly within your reach. Sleek, slim and super affordable, the LG KU250 lets you share pictures and send MMS with its built in 1.3 megapixel camera. You can also have face-to-face hellos through 3G Video Calling. Other 3G features like MP3 audio, MP4 video and bluetooth complete this revolutionary phone. LG Mobile. The Future of Mobile Phones Is Now.

LG Electronics Philippines, Inc., 15 F, Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig City • Customer Information Center (CIC) 640-2525 / Toll Free 1-800-640-2525 • www.lgmobile.com

LG MOBILE KU250
3G FOR ALL Winner
3G FOR ALL

How schools can prevent sexual abuse

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

By Queena N. Lee-Chua

"WAS I SEXUALLY harassed?" my student asked. "I was buying snacks when the vendor said, '*Ang* sexy *mo*, Miss!'

"How did you feel?"

She shuddered.

This was not the first time students had told me of such experiences. "That would be harassment, though the vendor might not know it was. Avoid him."

"I was not wearing anything provocative. Just T-shirt and jeans."

"What happened was not your fault. Do not blame yourself."

According to clinical psychologist Ma. Lourdes A. Carandang, talk of sex abuse is often taboo. "Ignorance is the main cause."

Some perpetrators can be unknowing, though this is often not the case. But the victims may also be ignorant. My student is a well-educated college sophomore, but she was not certain about what happened to her.

Prevention is the best cure. Sadly, Carandang and her team are usually called in by schools or barangays only when the damage has been done. They do therapy on the child or teenage victims, and work to prevent future cases.

Empower the community

"Sex abuse is real," Carandang says. "Perpetrators may be authority figures threatening their victims. The teacher says, 'If you talk, then you will not be my favorite pupil.' The father says, 'If you tell your mother, then I will kill you.'"

According to US educator Kathryn Wells Murdock, who wrote "Sexual Harassment in Schools," harassment can consist of sexual remarks; being touched or grabbed in a sexual way; being spied on while dressing or showering; "flashing"; attempted kissing; forced sexual acts or intercourse. Harassment can escalate to abuse, such as rape or incest.

"Victims may display drastic change in behavior," Carandang says. "They may become secretive—or prematurely sexual. An 8-year-old may suddenly talk about body parts in graphic terms. Teachers and parents have to be alert for these signs."

Carandang emphasizes the integral role of the mother. "The mother may often be in denial, especially if the father is the perpetrator. But she needs to listen, to keep an open mind."

Fighting back is not easy if the abuser is powerful. "Victims need to have people they can trust. I met a girl abused by her father. Her mother did not believe her, so she wrote to her aunt in Cebu, who then intervened. Finally, the mother separated from the father, and now the child is safe."

"Once, the abuser was the principal. The students told their teachers, who went to the superintendent together. It would have been hard for one teacher to blow the whistle, but as a group, they were confident enough to do so."

What schools can do

To my surprise, hardly any school has structured programs on preventing sexual harassment, though some schools have sex education in science or religion classes.

My student Winna Francisco, a graduate of Miriam College High School, says, "In health class, we discussed the reproductive system, and we ended up doing chastity vows. In Christian Ethics, we learned to STOP: Search the facts; Think about alternatives and consequences; Be Objective about how our actions affect others; and Pray."

But in my class of 80 psychology students, less than 10 have been provided with resources to deal with this issue. A few say that in high school, their teachers invited resource persons (psychologists, policemen) to discuss date rape or sexual abuse. These teachers took the initiative themselves; there was no formal program in school.

What can schools do then? Murdock gives the following suggestions:

- Discuss stereotypes. Students can explore stereotypes based on gender. How are women portrayed in print and TV ads? Are these acceptable? How can stereotypes lead to exploitation?
- Make a student code of conduct. Sometimes, students may harass their classmates without fully knowing what they are doing. They should ask themselves: "Have I been told that my actions are inappropriate? Would I do this if my parent or teacher were present? Would I want someone to say or do this to my sister/brother or girlfriend/boyfriend?"
- Role-play difficult situations. My student Mica Araneta, a graduate of St. John's Institute in Bacolod City, attended a talk on date rape, where role-play was used so that the girls could learn to say no. "To entice the girl to have sex, the guy might say that he loved her. Then the girl could answer, 'If you really loved me, then I am worth waiting for.'"
- Interview parents. Times change and standards of behavior also change. Students can interview parents or grandparents regarding accepted behavior in the past, and compare such behavior with what is acceptable now.
- Talk to school and community officials. Students need to be aware of their rights and responsibilities, and how a formal complaint will be handled in their school or town. Talking to the principal, the counselor, the teacher, or the superintendent can both deter perpetrators and reassure students.

"Children are resilient," Carandang says. "Given love and respect, most can recover from abuse. But we need to prevent them from being harmed in the first place."

For schools interested in seminars to prevent or deal with sexual abuse, e-mail Peachy Fernando at magicalchildwithin@yahoo.com.ph and the rest of Carandang's team at starmovement@yahoo.com.

The savaged child

From page C1

person—with or without actual physical contact. Although many think sexual abuse of a child is limited to fondling, rape, oral sex, sodomy and digit-finger penetration, it also includes making a child watch porn, making a child look at an adult's genitalia, using a child in porn production of any kind, engaging the child in prostitution, and having sex in front of the child.

At the UP-CPU, there is an average of 90 new patients each month, girls and boys as young as 4 seeking help and refuge from all kinds of child abuse. Of that number, Madrid said, about 70 of them come from a sexually abusive environment.

Even so, Madrid added, the reported cases are just a fraction of what is really happening out there, as 40 percent take their "shameful" experience with them to the grave. Another reason sexual abuse is under-reported is due to the "secrecy" or "conspiracy of silence" that often characterize this type of abuse, she said.

When children go through a traumatic experience the scars of the incident will stay with them for life, Madrid said. There's just no way of getting around it, no guarantee that the trauma will not be repeated or of a happy-ever-after future.

"In a sense it's like an addiction—you deal and live with it your whole life. Therapy will not make you forget the trauma; therapy will teach you how to live with it," Madrid said.

In fact, she said, many sexually abused children, even after intensive rehabilitation and therapy, eventually repeat the cycle—all outward actions, it seems, dictated by the subconscious. Reason varies from an unchanged environment to acceptance of "fate," from low self-esteem to a mind-set wired to expect something bad to happen at all times.

"You pluck them out of that environment and they will put themselves in [an abusive] situation once again. That's what we want to break in the therapy," she said.

Family support

Success in therapy means the child would be able to lead a normal, well-functioning adult life after the trauma; but it will depend heavily on the child's family support, extra-familial support and development of a high self-esteem. But no matter how strong-willed a child might be, if s/he goes through a series of traumatic events, Madrid said s/he would most likely reach a breaking point.

Poorer children, for instance, face more problems other than sexual abuse on a regular basis compared to children from affluent families. They face the problem of survival from poverty and hunger while coping with the psychological trauma of abuse.

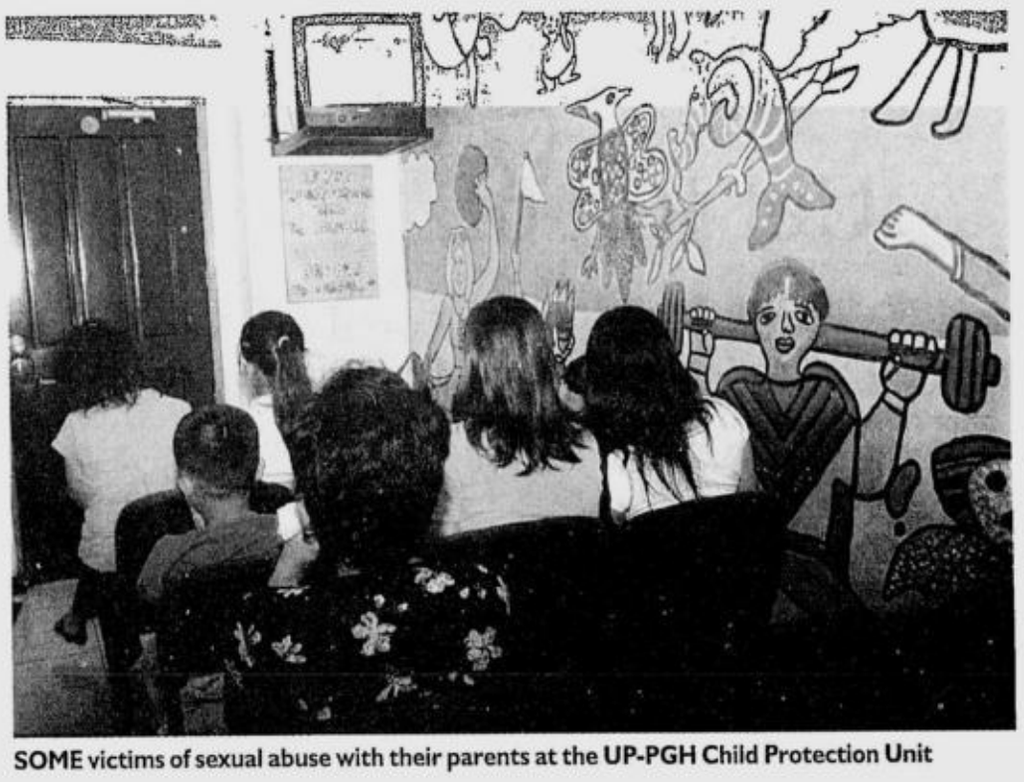
Studies today link history of childhood sexual abuse with negative physical and psychological effects throughout adulthood. There is a higher rate of anxiety attacks, situation-specific anxiety disorders (over sex, a touch or a new acquaintance), self-destructive behaviors such as substance abuse, depressive symptoms, eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorders, no pleasure in sex, insomnia.

Many encounter problems in their adult relationships, such as the inability to sustain a long and meaningful relationship, or difficulty dealing with sexual concerns with a partner.

"The first thing that gets shattered is trust. It is difficult to deal with sexual abuse because how do you teach a child to be wary of everyone in her life [without creating a psychological effect]? The important thing is for the child to have at least one adult s/he can rely on," Madrid said.

For children in distress, the most natural person to run to would be their parents, of course. But if that's not possible, then a relative, a teacher or some member of the community will do, Madrid said.

Based on experience, she said it is naturally occurring for children to love their parents but not the other way around. When rejection from the parent is observed, the child is better off with someone who can provide him/her with a healthier home environment. But the chances of the child growing up as "normal" as possible become less. Pure psychological abuse like rejection is also a completely different issue.


SOME victims of sexual abuse with their parents at the UP-PGH Child Protection Unit

Some children also have "sleeper effects." They seem okay for now, but suffer serious problems 10 or 12 years later when they're adults. A child too young to understand right and wrong when the abuse was made, said Madrid, will one day grow up and begin to understand. And the devastating physical and psychological effects are still the same, she said.

In the UP-CPU 2005 Annual Report, 91.8 percent of the perpetrators of sexual abuse are persons known to the child, 65.6 percent of whom are non-family members such as neighbors. Parents, uncles, stepfathers, cousins, grandfathers, brothers-in-law comprise 34.4 percent, while strangers account for only 6.3 percent.

Misconception

Sexual abuse in children, unlike physical abuse, cuts across socio-economic class, Madrid said. A common misconception, she continued, is that people think it's more common among the poor because of their living conditions. But the fact that poor families live in one-room affairs makes it even easier for other members of the family to check what's going on, she said. Compare that to a big house with many rooms and with many opportunities to be alone with a child.

THERAPY plays an important role in the lives of children in distress.

"Those that get reported are mostly from poor families because the rich tend to hide their skeletons—they have more to lose," Madrid said.

The chance the victims are lying is very low as well. Worldwide research, said Madrid, reports that less then 5 percent of teenagers lie while little girls or boys don't lie at all since many of them do not yet comprehend the severity of their situation.

Studies also show that it takes an average of two years before a child says anything, Madrid said. Adult reaction to a disclosure from a child has a significant impact on that child's adjustment. Children often talk to mothers, who either get angry, keep quiet or bring the child to the authorities, she said. Overly emotional responses have negative impact on children, who already feel badly and often blame themselves for the sexual abuse.

Not surprising, children who are believed by their parents experience less trauma. The sooner the children disclose the abuse the less trauma there may be in the long run compared to those who lived with the secret for years.

Sexual abuse is higher in children aged 13-15, followed by 4-6, 16-17, 10-12, 7-9 and 0-3 years of age. Madrid said the higher accounts do not necessarily mean that age bracket is more at risk. It just happened that at, say, 4, the child is able to talk already; or at 13 there is a marked increase of adolescent independence.

Because of the trauma, the likelihood of the victim growing up to become the offender, said Madrid, is 30 percent. "But if you look at the offenders more than 50 percent of them have been abused as a child," she said.

Does one ever recover from sexual abuse?

Depending on severity, repetition of abuse, psychological disposition, inherited disorders and environmental factors, a few actually manage to deal with the trauma and live a normal life, Madrid said. Still, the most important step is for victims to let go of any guilt they may feel about the abuse.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

Some tips to check abuse

CAN ONE TELL IF A CHILD HAS been sexually abused? How does one prevent an abuse from happening, or from being repeated? How does one protect children from sex offenders?

"A strong indication a child has been sexually abused is showing off inappropriate sexual behavior for such a young child," said Dr. Bernadette J. Madrid, director of the UP-Child Protection Unit.

On the one hand, sexually abused children become withdrawn, don't have friends and don't want to mix with other people, don't want to talk to the opposite sex. On the other, children could become promiscuous, or have inappropriate knowledge and interest about sex. Parents must look out for regressive behaviors, such as a return to thumb-sucking or bed-wetting, sudden academic and behavior problems, and runaway behavior.

Madrid recalls a 17-year-old patient who ran away from home 17 times. Nobody, not the neighbors or family, bothered to ask why and what the teenager was running away from, and continued to blame the young girl each time.

"Life in the streets is harsh. Nobody would run away from a happy home," she said.

Sexually abused children should never be left alone in a room, unsupervised, with anybody—without exemption, stressed Madrid. If children needed to be alone with an adult they should be checked at random periods the entire time.

The child must not live in the same house as the offender. There must be an alternative place—the grandmother's, the sister's, the friend's. The shelter should be the last resort, continued Madrid, since no child would willingly want to grow up in a shelter. Family members should always provide the child support.

Be aware at all times who your child is with at a certain given time. Communicate openly with your child. If he/she went out for a brief outing, ask how it went. Discuss with school authorities how some parts of a child's body must NEVER be touched by anyone.

More tips from the American Psychological Association on how to protect children from sexual offenders:

- "Don't talk to strangers" doesn't apply. Most sexual perpetrators are known to their victims.
- Don't instruct children to give relatives hugs and kisses. Let them express affection on their own terms.
- Teach your children basic sexual education. Teach them that no one should touch the "private" parts of their body. A health professional can also help to communicate sex education to children if parents are uncomfortable doing so.
- Teach your children that sexual advances from adults are wrong and against the law. Give them the confidence to assert themselves against any adult who attempts to abuse them.
- Make an effort to know your children's friends and their families.
- Instruct your child to never get into a car with anyone without your permission.
- Teach your children that their bodies are their own. That it is okay to say they do not want a hug or that certain kinds of contact make them uncomfortable.
- Remember that physical force is often not necessary to engage a child in sexual activity. Children are trusting and dependent and will often do what is asked of them to gain approval and love.

Doctors, nurses and hospital administrators are required by law to report any suspicion of child abuse to the DSWD, police, barangay or Commission on Human Rights. Teachers and employees of government have the duty to report such abuses. Anyone, of course, can report an abuse.

"If child abuse won't get reported, it will not stop. There's no such thing as maybe the offense will not be repeated. You will only make it more convenient for the offender," Madrid said.

–Anne A. Jambora

Setting free a predator

From page C1

Why did the DOJ do that in the first place? How did it even occur to anyone there to commute not just one life sentence but two life terms meted out to a sex offender? How is it possible in a just world to cut a sentence of 40-80 years to only 16 years, three months and three days when the crime victim was a minor?

"The Board of Pardons and Parole has all the guidelines there," says Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez. "They have many things to consider, from the age of the inmate to his health to his behavior while in detention."

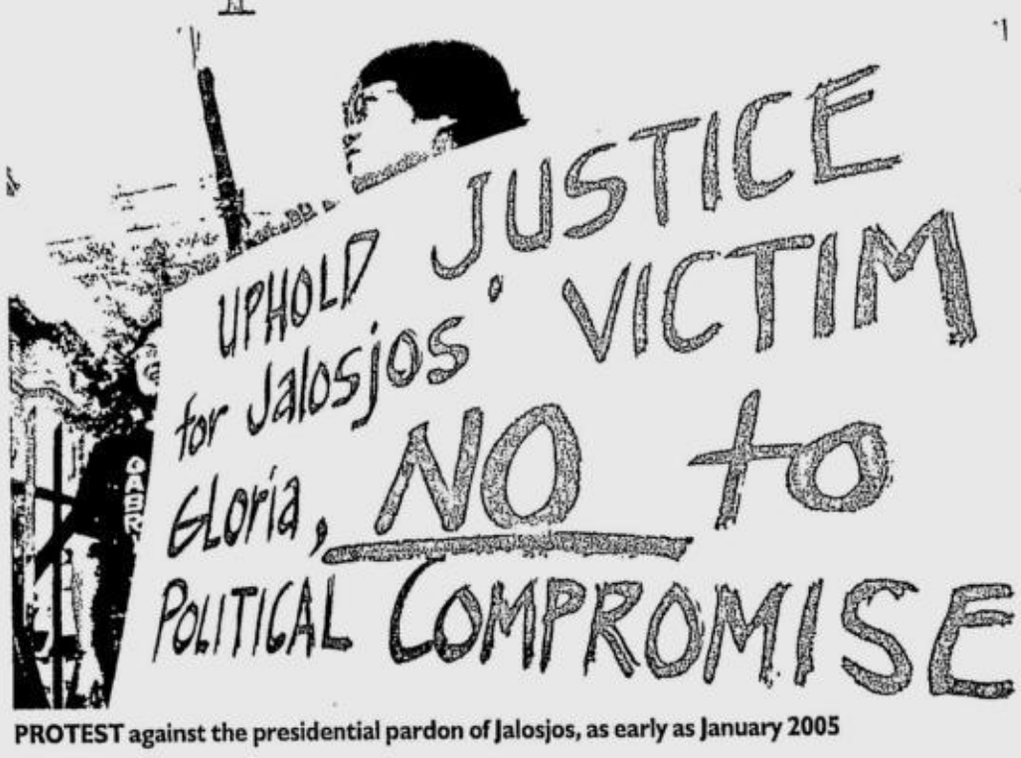
Legal problem

The commutation order was signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on April 30. It was announced by Malacañang on June 12.

The time lapse between signing and announcement makes one suspect it was to forestall until after the elections in May what the administration might have foreseen would be an adverse public reaction.

"There's no problem with legality as that case had already reached the Supreme Court," says Reynaldo Bayang, executive director of the DOJ agency Board of Pardons and Parole. "Even without our recommendation, the President can grant executive clemency anyway... *Taga*-record *lang kami kung ano ang* action *ng* Malacañang. We have no right to question her decision."

The President has the constitutional power of executive clemency, which includes the broad power in her discretion to commute a sentence. Article VII, Section 19, of the 1987 Constitution clearly affirms: "Except in cases of impeachment, or as otherwise provided in this Constitution, the President may grant reprieves, commutations, and pardons, and remit fines and forfeitures, after conviction by final judgment."



PROTEST against the presidential pardon of Jalosjos, as early as January 2005

In 2004, the President had issued Memorandum Circular 155, which says: "It is the policy of the Arroyo administration to extend executive clemency to deserving elderly inmates out of compassion and based on humanitarian grounds."

This means inmates 70 years old and above. Jalosjos is now 66. Since he has already served a total of 13 years, seven months and 15 days, he can be out of jail in three years, courtesy of the President. He will not be quite 70, but the even bigger issue is: Can society trust him to stay away from young girls?

"Our role is to give a chance to these people *na magbagong-buhay*," says Bayang. "But still there are many things to be considered. Aside from age and health, we have to consider the convict's degree of remorsefulness, the good deeds done for fellow inmates, the actual time served."

He says his office has received petitions on behalf of Jalosjos as early as 2005, and the board started the discussion on the commutation only last year.

Moral issue

The six-member board is a multidisciplinary body composed of an educator, a priest, a lawyer, a sociologist, a corrections expert, and one ex officio member (the administrator of the Parole and Probation Administration). Bayang, who's been with the office for 23 years and is its executive secretary and director for seven years, assigns cases to the board members and presides over the group discussions as acting chair.

He explains the process: "We do community interviews and a pre-executive clemency report, compiled by our Parole and Probation field offices. In Jalosjos' case, we did two months of interviews in his remote community of Dakak, and we received favorable recommendations."

Did they interview in Dakak because that is where Jalosjos will be residing after his release from prison? Did the board consider that Jalosjos committed his crime against a girl who did not live in Dakak?

"There are doctors' certificates from various hospitals concerning his health, which involve his heart, lungs, blood pressure, *at* kidneys *pa yata*. Then there's the institutional record of his projects in prison, such as a basketball court he had built for the inmates, a hamburger stand. We are a collegial body. *Pabalik-balik ang* discussions *namin*."

Finally, after no less than three group discussions, the board came to a unanimous decision on commutation, and recommended that his sentence be reduced to "an indeterminate prison term of from 22 to 27 years, with the justification based on the 2006 Revised Manual of the Board, found in Sec. 3 (h)..." Everyone was against pardon, though.

In such cases, there's always the morality aspect to be considered. Take the gray area called Christian compassion, which Bayang characterizes as a real dilemma: "We may want to pardon a convict for health consideration and let him walk out of prison—*pero kung ayaw sa kanya ng* community, *itinatakwil siya, salbahe talaga*, what do we do?"

He further explains: "When we say it's 'heinous' we're referring not only to the crime but also to the manner of commission. We also have to consider the aggravating circumstances, such as the minor age of the victim in rape; or the mitigating ones, such as when the suspect has surrendered, bargained or pleaded to a lesser crime, or both parties have settled. In such cases, rape may be reduced to an act of lasciviousness."

In other countries, news of release of a convicted sex offender like Jalosjos would have been met with public protest. In fact, in almost every state in America, there is a registry of sex offenders that can help parents track down the whereabouts of a predator.

Parents speak out

As a parent, how do you feel about the order to set Romeo Jalosjos free after serving only 16 years of his double life sentence?

Compiled by Irene C. Perez and Fran Katigbak

Paolo Abrera, 36, TV host, father of three children

I prefer to look at the simple facts stripped of the names and personalities associated with the case. And the fact remains that a child rapist was found guilty and sentenced to serve two life sentences. No facts have changed so I see no logical reason for his punishment to change either. It is a disconcerting thought for a parent that a criminal of this kind will possibly go free without paying his debts to society.

If the people who are trying to make his early release possible really believe that it is the right thing to do and that justice has been served, I would like them to prove to me how much faith they have in their decision by leaving their children in the care of this convicted criminal. Call me a cynic but I like to see people put their money where their mouths are. Only then will I see the wisdom of their argument."

Hazel Emma Mae V. Chicano, 25, nurse/clinical instructor, mother to a 5-year-old boy

Being a parent, it bothers me that a person convicted of child molestation will be free to roam around. Sure, it is easy to say that we accept them after being incarcerated, but our children are psychologically and physically helpless in dealing with the matter, and that is what makes it bothersome. A sexual offender though is different from a sexual predator but still, the thought having one just around the corner won't entirely give you that good night's rest."

Terry Ridon, 26, doctor, father to a 7-month-old girl

More than the safety issue, I think that we should also consider the question of justice. This is a case of child molestation and that deserves more than just a slap on the wrist.

Reading the news about this commutation left me in shock at first. Then came the bitter taste in my mouth.

This act by GMA can hardly be called exemplary. Rather than strengthen faith in the judiciary, it reinforces the notion that class differences play a strong role in tilting the scales of justice, mostly in favor of the elite.

Simply put, it makes people afraid. It makes parents such as myself afraid, afraid of people with clout and money who might rape our sons and daughters in exchange for paltry sentences. People have been jailed longer for lesser offenses, even for nothing."

RJ Christian Jagonio, 29, customer service representative, father to a 3-year-old girl

Jalosjos, like any other convicted criminal, should not be pardoned by anybody, least of all the President. Why does the President want to pardon this monster? Because he's old? Because of his "good conduct" while in prison which, I believe, is just a trick just to get out? The prison is not a rehabilitation center. It is what it is, a prison, something to keep away to protect those outside its walls. He and his lot should be locked up. He's just lucky he didn't get the death sentence. I am utterly aghast with the President's decision. What will the victim and her family think about our President now? They are not the only victims here.

Antonio Barros Villafuerte, barangay official

I was really not surprised when I first heard the news about this commutation. But would it have been different if the convicted criminal were an ordinary citizen, and not an influential former congressman? Doesn't the work of lawmakers in legislating laws to protect children, and the work of law enforcers to protect our children, the women and the weak, go to waste because of the commutation? And because of the commutation, isn't our work as public servants in the Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children ultimately wasted? Would those around the President who recommended the commutation allow their children to stay in the same room with Jalosjos?

Ventura de la Cruz, 57, office messenger, father of six

Of course I'm worried about having a sex offender return to the community because he could commit the same crime again. First of all, his [two life] terms were commuted with the government's help, like a *padrino*, which gives him protection.

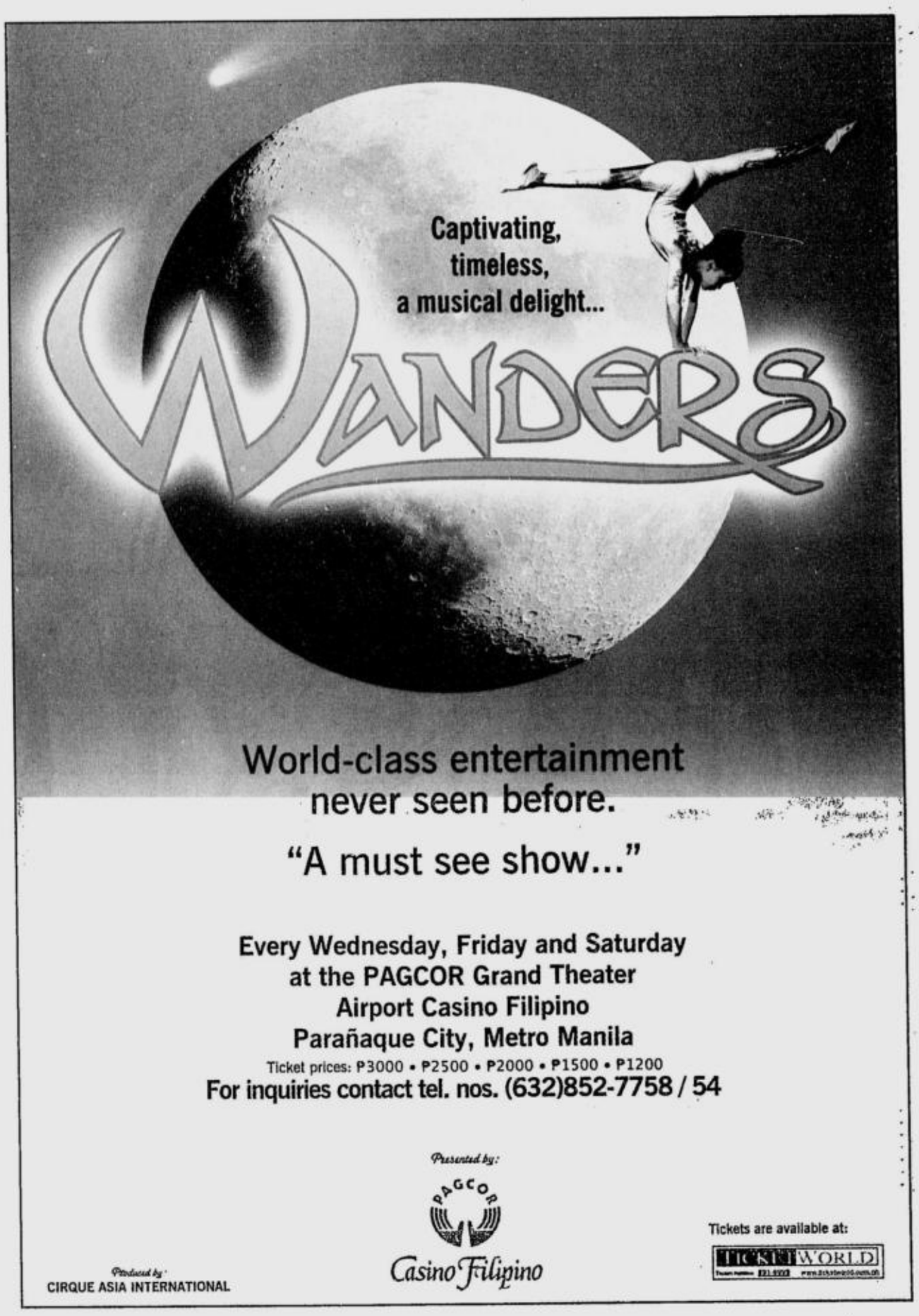
But he has a right to live in his home. If there are protests, these should all be done legally, otherwise *baka ikaw naman ang mabuweltahan*. OK *lang* [*na bumalik siya*] *kasi wala ka naman magagawa maski hindi mo gusto*."

Carol de la Rosa, 49, businesswoman, mother of three

Jalosjos committed a capital offense. In the absence of the death penalty, being sentenced to two life terms was enough punishment. He should not be given the chance to get out of prison ... He made use of his money and influence.

If a sex offender like Jalosjos were to live in my neighborhood, I wouldn't agree to it. While it is his right to be part of the community and there's nothing I can do to prevent it, people would still think he's a criminal. *Kaya ba niya i*-accept *na ang* community *niya mababa ang tingin sa kanya*?

Cathy Guballa's column Roots and Wings will resume next Sunday.



CEBU CEBU
Jaime Picornell

International night for charity

MIKE Reyes, Augusto Villalon, Betty Young, Alfred Xerez-Burgos, Margarita Villalon, lawyer Dindo Perez, Zeny Quibranza, and Alby Xerez-Burgos

THE CEBU CHAPTER OF THE CONSULAR Corps of the Philippines held recently International Night at Salon de España, grand ballroom of the Casino Español de Cebu.

It was a fundraiser for the Cebu Society for Crippled Children, which looks after indigent disabled children, and the Zonta Club of Cebu II, which has projects for abused/battered women and children.

The evening's highlight was a fashion parade of costumes from different countries. Modelling were Consular Corps members and their families.

Invitations were printed in March and more than 200 confirmations were received in a month's time.

Welcoming everyone were Cebu Consular Corps chair Samuel Chioson, honorary consul of Portugal; VP **Shigekazu Sakunaga**, Consul of Japan; and secretary **Moya Jackson**, honorary consul of the United Kingdom.

Architect **Augusto Villalon** and his sister **Margarita Villalon** graced the occasion together with Landco Pacific president **Alfred Xerez-Burgos**, senior VP **Alby Xerez-Burgos**, lawyer **Dindo Perez**, Visayas-Mindanao VP **Mike Reyes**, Visayas-Mindanao marketing director **Shella Sarmiento** and **Zeny Quibranza**, administration manager of the Cebu office.

In a table beside Landco's was Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs **Francisco Benedicto** with his wife **Tina** who is honorary consul general of Turkey.

Surrounded by family members was the president of the Cebu Society for Crippled Children **Doña Carmen Rodriguez vda. de Martinez** who belongs to one of Cebu's oldest and most prominent families. Members of the Zonta Club of Cebu II were in full force, led by president Betty Young and event chair Petite Garcia who figured among the ramp models.

It all started with **Myrna Ngo Chua** in animal-print leotards and masses of feathers, from Zululand in South Africa. Then came **Marietta Malinao** for Ghana; **Thea Graham** for Canada; and **Elena Young** to great applause with two granddaughters, **Ana Carmela** and **Ana Katrina Chiu**, as American Indians.

THE FILIPINIANA SUITE: Marilou Cañizares and Elvira Lu Ym

There were two from Spain—**Teresin (OJO) Mendezona** in Andalucia ruffles, and **Cecilia Rodriguez** in gala attire from Zaragoza. Then followed Emily Chioson, Portugal; **Genevieve Benedicto**, Romania; **Joy Benedicto**, Belgium; **June Ugarte** and **Mariter Klepp**, Austria; **Nellie Chiu**, Slovakia; and two from United Kingdom, Jackson for Wales and **Tim Wright** in full Scottish gear. There'll always be someone who will ask what is, or what isn't worn, under the kilt.

Minnie Yuviengco, president of Zonta Cebu I, guested in an elaborate costume of her own making, depicting 18th-century France. Colorful Russian costumes were worn by **Nena Chiongbian**, **Petite Garcia** and **Armi Lopez Garcia** who the night before had been installed as the Russian Federation's honorary consul in Cebu. Russian Ambassador **Vitalyi Boroviev** was in the audience.

Spectacular were the costumes and headgear from the Latin American countries For Mexico—**Janet Ugarte** and **Odette Jereza** with granddaughter **April Jereza**; Peru, **Flor Miel**; Puerto Rico, **Elsa Basubas**; Bahamas, **Marilou Rodriguez**; Brazil, **Betty Pinat**; and Venezuela, **Grace Colmenares** in an all-white gown.

Dainty as Japanese dolls in their kimonos, obis and twirling parasols were **Cloy Credo**, **Mamiko Yamamoto** and **Misaki Watase**. The honorary consul general of Korea in Cebu **Augusto Go** and his wife **Elizabeth** wore authentic robes as did Korean resident **Miriam King** whose admirers presented her with a huge bouquet of flowers.

Myrna Ngo Chua reappeared, this time in Mongolia's costume. **Jane Llaban** vowed everyone in a filmy sari from India. **Cynthia Dagus** wore a silk *ao-dai* from Viet-Nam; **Lydia Sia**, modern Chinese attire; **Chinggay Utzurrum**, Malaysian dress; **Haydee Benedicto**, Turkish chiffon; and **Liza Young** was most colorful in what they wear in Afghanistan.

Blonde and ethereal **Nancy Velez** is dubbed the Grace Kelly of Cebu, but this time she looked more like a seductive Elizabeth Taylor in shimmering ancient Egyptian attire, complete with black wig, darkened eye make up, and a snake on her diadem.

The finale was a Filipiniana Suite featuring ternos and gowns inspired by the Philippines' ethnic regions. In it were **Rachel Espiritu** (wife of the DFA head in Cebu, Angel Espiritu), **Cita Chan**, **Elvira Lu Ym**, **Ma. Theresa Dumon**, **Marilou Cañizares** escorted by her two sons **Joefranz** and **Ziggy** and **Betty Young** who addressed the audience and effusively thanked one and all for the success of the event.

A splendid buffet dinner was served, with three angus beef carving stations. Dancing followed to the music of **Roland Suarez**. Kudos to him as well as to **Zandro Guillo** for choreographing the show, and **Vince Escario** who was the annotator.

REPRESENTING Spain: Teresin Mendezona (Sevilla)

GENEVIEVE Benedicto-Romania,

Low waist jeans,
no love handles.

Have it ALL
Coca-Cola light
great taste. no calories.

Coca-Cola light and the Dynamic Ribbon device are registered trademarks of the Coca-Cola Company. © 2007 The Coca-Cola Company

Sunday LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle

Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

GODIVA Skin Station
Pamper your skin... for less
Glycolic+Diamond Peel P1,000
Spider Veins Treatment by Sclerotherapy P1,500
IV Glutathione 7 sessions P15,000
Thermafirme Face and Neck, 10 sessions P25,000
ALABANG Tel. 842-8484 , 796-7979/ 0922-8080716
BINONDO Tel. 244-6888 , 244-8714/ 0906-3456111
MAKATI BEL-AIR Tel. 751-6140 / 0917-9649828
SM FAIRVIEW Tel. 939-1105 / 0906-4765304
NOW OPEN! BINONDO BRANCH
Chin Chin Gutierrez

Sweet July
Our Promo, ROOM for as low as P1,450+ per person on twin sharing
INCLUSIONS
• Room accommodation
• Full Buffet Breakfast at Le Jardin Restaurant
• Use of Roofdeck/Swimming Pool & Gym
PARTY PACKAGE for as low as P24,750+
City Garden Hotel Makati
Makati cor. Kalayaan Avenues, Makati City
Telephone No.: 899-1111
E-mail: makati@citygardenhotels.com
www.citygardenhotels.com

The diaspora according to mystics

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

FOR YEARS WE'VE BEEN soaked in the corruption issues of the country and yet even the strongest conscienticizing has not prodded us all into action. Now, even with a new senate in place the picture hasn't lightened. Filipinos probably feel, deep down in their gut, that political and economic solutions are not sufficient.

Before the coming of the Spaniards in the 16th century, there were the *babaylans* to consult. Predominantly, but not exclusively women, because the perspective needed by the agricultural age was feminine—nurturing, cyclical, healing.

Babaylans carried the key beliefs about the origins of the world, the meaning of life and the ideal behavior of a human being. Mystics and healers, they wielded social and spiritual powers and could analyze the problems of the community. They were the original spiritual expression of our people.

Modern *babaylans* exist in the present day although they are no longer recognized as leaders. They have the same ancient gifts of clairvoyance, healing touch and a deep connection to the motherland. Their modern-day mission is to articulate the Filipino's spiritual power in a manner and language that will appeal to the youth so that they may be equipped with the proper tools and weapons to survive.

The present-day *babaylans* we talked to are two—Georgina Solina, a well-respected astrologer and author, and Edwin "Bong" de la Torre, a healer and clairvoyant. The following opinions are all theirs.

A lot has been said about the Philippine diaspora—how the Filipinos are going abroad in great numbers and their influence on the households and establishments they work for. We have claimed that our OFWs—*yayas* and nurses and teachers—are, in fact, "Filipinizing" the western world.

Fated to be scattered

Solina's reading of the diaspora is that conditions at home—great poverty, scarcity of jobs, low wages and political instability—are being made purposely more difficult by the universe. It is forcing Filipinos to go out and seek their destinies abroad. Because the Filipino nation is eventually fated to be, not on Philippine soil, but scattered all over the western world.

Global warming has given a deeper dimension to the Philippine diaspora. As alerted by environmental activist Al Gore, the North Pole and the South Pole are melting, the polar bears are drowning and the penguins are dying. This is the result of more than a tolerable quantity of pollutants (like carbon dioxide from the burning of coal, oil, gasoline and forests) being released into the air. The thickened atmosphere traps more than the beneficial amount of sun radiation, raising overall temperatures. It has melted the mountain glaciers of every continent, raising the levels of oceans and seas.

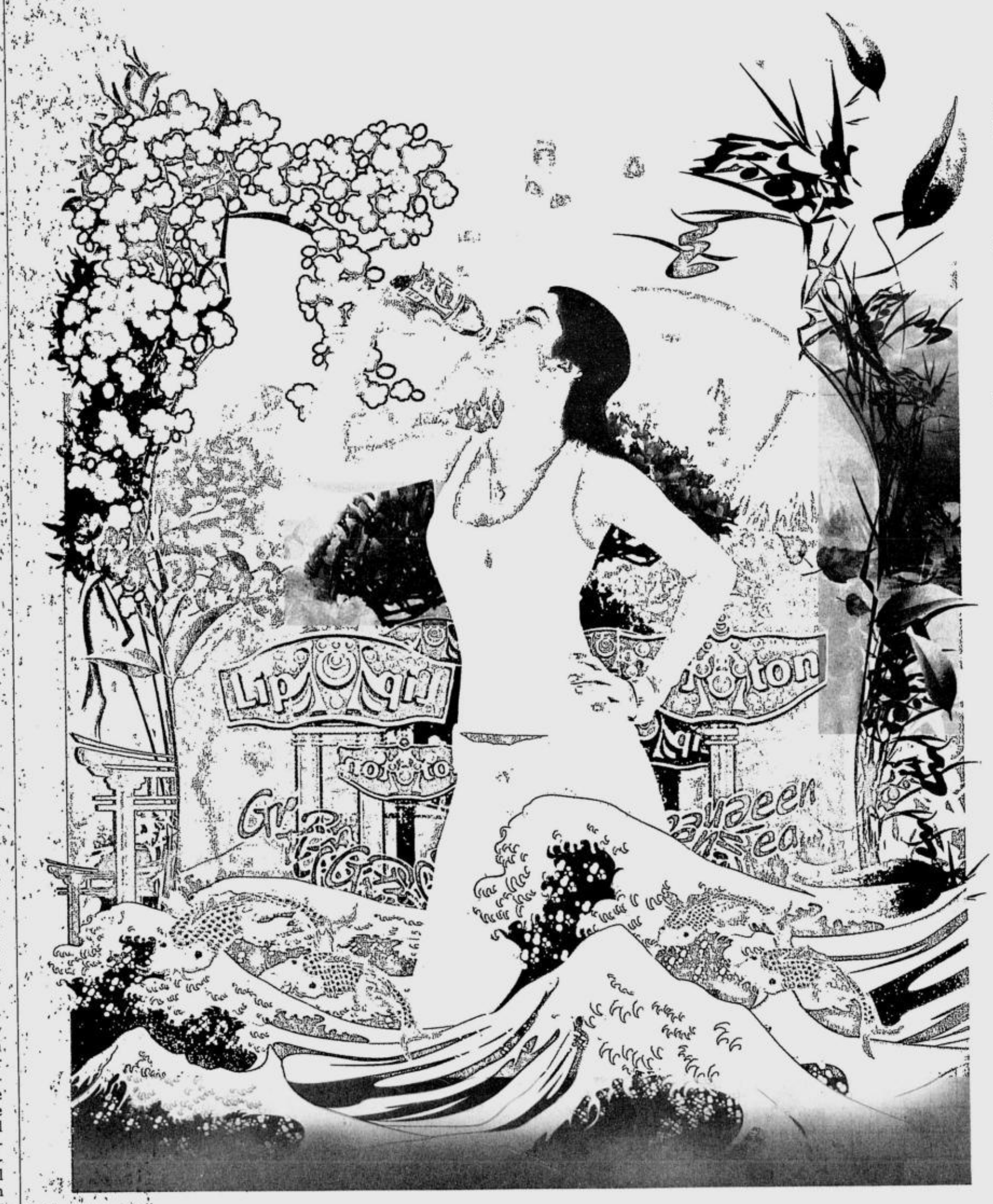
"Low-lying areas near southern Florida, Manhattan and the area surrounding San Francisco Bay could end up under water," Gore warns, "and in Western Europe, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. In Beijing 20 million people live in areas that would be flooded. In Shanghai the devastation would even be worse. Forty million Chinese would become climate refugees.

"When temperatures of oceans rise, typhoons get stronger. Hurricane Katrina left millions of Americans homeless. But while there are tornados and typhoons in some areas there are heat waves in others, causing the deaths, in 2005, of 35,000 Europeans (shooting up to 122 degrees in India)."

"In the Philippines the typhoons will become stronger and stronger, too," declares De la Torre. Bicol is now the Highway 54 of

THE DIASPORA/D2

→ fold and connect the two arrows ←



STILL SEARCHING FOR THE REAL GOODNESS OF NATURE? DISCOVER IT IN JAPAN.

NATURAL SOURCE OF TEA AOX ANTIOXIDANTS

Lipton TEA CAN DO THAT.

OPPEN, Monaco's honorary consul Fortune Ledesma, Ambassador Yehoshua Sagi of Israel and Ambassador Yim of the Knights of Malta

DR. JAIME Lapus, first secretary, Knights of Malta; Leticia Syquia, cultural attache, Order of Malta; Cynthia Yim; Ambassador In May of Cambodia; Ambassador Jimmy Yim, Knights of Malta; Charge d'Affaires Antonio Oppen, Knights of Malta

Philippine chapter of Knights of Malta turns 50

THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY AND Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta celebrated recently the feast day of its patron saint, John the Baptist.

Ambassador Jimmy Yim, with Leticia Corpuz-Syquia (cultural attache), National Association of the Knights of Malta president Ernesto Rufino, First Secretary and Knight of Magistral Grace Jaime V. Lapus, and Charge d'Affaires Antonio C. Oppen, hosted a cocktail reception.

Yim said the Philippines' National Association of the Order of Malta was also celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. "[This is] a significant event evidencing 50 years of good works here, and many more good years to come," the ambassador told a small, intimate crowd that included knights and dames of the Order, members of the diplomatic corps, and other special guests.

Philippine Foreign Affairs director for European Affairs Evangeline Ong-Jimenez Ducrocq, Papal Nuncio to the Philippines Archbishop Fernando Filoni, and ambassadors of Spain, Cambodia, and Israel attended the event.

The Order is the largest surviving order of knights from the Middle Ages and the world's smallest sovereign state.

When the crusaders arrived in Jerusalem, the Hospitallers were running the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, which was established around 1048 AD to care for pilgrims coming to the Holy Land and for indigenous Christian, Jewish and Muslim populations.

After 900 years and many generations later, the knights and dames of the Order now number about 12,500. They work with more than 80,000 volunteers and a staff of about 11,000 in 120 countries worldwide.

Christian values

Under its constitutional charter, the purpose of the Order of Malta is "the promotion of… the Christian values of charity and brotherhood. The Order carries out its charitable works for the sick, the needy and refugees without distinction of religion, race, origin or age.

"The Order fulfills its institutional tasks especially by carrying out hospitaller works, including health and social assistance, as well as aiding victims of exceptional disasters and war."

This philosophy is rooted in the parable of the Good Samaritan who helps a traveler who is beaten up by robbers. Such virtues are also seen in the works of the saints of charity such as Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Funding for the Order's projects comes from members themselves, from gifts and legacies, fundraising campaigns, international relief agencies and international foundations.

Rome, Italy, is the seat of the Order of Malta's government. It is headed by Grand Master Fra' Andrew Bertie, the 78th Grand Master of the Order.

"The members of the Order experience their faith… as a way of living in the service of others, of the poor and the sick, in an authentic spirit of humanity that recognizes the image of God in the person who suffers, regardless of their race, origin, or religion" is the group's guiding principle.

The Order's diplomatic corps is recruited both from the ranks of professional diplomats who are leaving active service but seeking to make positive use of their skills and experience in a voluntary capacity; and from members of the Order with the necessary knowledge and expertise in international relations.

Using their skills in diplomacy and negotiation, the Order's ambassadors help to ensure that aid can be delivered promptly and effectively, working with local national associations of the Order in a particular country, and coordinating aid activities where there is none.

The Order designated last year legal counsel Yim, managing director, Drew & Napier, Singapore, as ambassador in the Philippines.

Leonida L. Vera has been the Philippine ambassador to the Sovereign Order of the Knights of Malta since 2005.

For more on the history and current activities of the Order of Malta, visit www.orderofmalta.org, or contact the National Association in the Philippines, 5364795 or e-mail smomphil@philonline.com.

The diaspora according to mystics

From page D1

typhoons and will become a semi-permanent disaster area. The group lesson there is about setting up structures for disaster readiness to be perfected through the years. Eventually, the whole of planet earth will become a disaster area and our skills in survival passed on.

Bong de la Torre affirms what the environmentalists have been saying—that the rising of the waters will be sooner than projected. Not the Judeo-Christian image of the Apocalypse nor a gotterdamerung scenario. And it is already happening. A little shaking here and there, a cyclone, a big flood?

Clear and present danger

"There is clear and present danger. As the most conscious species of the planet we must view it from a higher perspective to see that the problem is energetical and therefore spiritual. At the same time the portal is opening. Portal to where?

Psychics see the portal not only as metaphorical, but physical, located in the Philippines, specifically Palawan, which sits in the ring of fire. The actual movement is a rearrangement of the tectonic plates which always causes a shift. On the mystic level a Shift happens in order to lift the earth to a higher consciousness.

It is probably easier to understand the portal metaphorically as referring to the heart. It is "an awareness of others' suffering," or simply, that whatever we do or think affects the next person. A people's thoughts and feelings form society's collective consciousness. When a tipping point is reached these convictions upset all current accepted forms of thinking. It is more familiarly called a "paradigm shift."

The earliest (historical) quantum leaps were those of Copernicus who was finally upheld in his "heretical" belief that it was the earth that revolved around the sun. There was Columbus who was able to convince the Court and the crew of his ship that they were not going to fall over the edge of the earth.

Paradigm shift is merely the same old world seen in a new light. Today's portal is opening to the soul field. Science has been consistently corroborating the existence of spirit. Organically farmed foods and holistic healing are quietly being accepted. There is a convergence of science, counseling and therapy, too, in understanding the soul process necessary to heal mental disorders. The Philippines will even experience a radical evolution in the concept of a nation. 2007 is the dismantling of old structures, 2008 is groundbreaking for new ones. We only need the courage to open up to what is unfamiliar for new abilities and new forms to emerge. The paradigm shift is nothing but awareness.

Part of the old world

The mystics see the Philippines as part of the old, old spiritual world of the planet, of Lemuria, the land of Mu, of pre-recorded time, that was submerged millions and millions of years ago. (Mu refers to their spaceships). Lemuria was a humongous continent that supposedly included parts of California (USA), extending to the mountains of South America, and on the right side, to Japan, then to Indonesia and Sumatra, then even lower to Australia and back up again to India and the Middle East (Chic Fortich). Its center is allegedly the Philippines.

The Lemurians were highly evolved beings with spirit bodies who could easily take other than human forms. An inner mechanism in the soul could make them fly or disappear (like spirits and angels). The land, too, was of a different composition then.

Lemuria was in distress because of its two types of inhabitants—the laboring class led by priests and a form of religion, and a higher class not in harmony with the religion. The highly psychic Lemurians abused their powers by incorporating witchcraft and black magic in their fight. This resulted in the sinking of the continent. But many Lemurians were able to escape.

None of this information is, of course, written. It was accessed by clairvoyants from "master guides" in the spirit world who had gone through the flooding. As evidence that the Philippines was Lemuria, psychics claim the presence, in the Philippine deep, of deuterium, a kind of "heavy water" which is actually the first element that appears when new stars are formed. They also claim the Philippine ocean to be connected to the Bermuda Triangle in the Atlantic where many airplanes have disappeared without trace. Another supposed evidence of our being Lemurian descendants is the Filipinos themselves who are very old souls, rich, not in material wealth, but in spiritual resources.

Interest groups

Says De la Torre, "There already exists a cabal of interlocking interest groups all over the world trying to control information on global warming. Some are doing it with good intention—they do not want panic to ensue. Other visionaries are not so innocent. They look at the sinking in all parts of the world as opportunities for business three or so generations down the road. Parts of Australia and Canada, as read by them, will become very fertile. These 'futurists' are multisectoral—clairvoyants, scientists, biologists, nuclear physicists. With them it is no longer about saving structures. That's a foregone conclusion—all structures will have to go—political, economic, religious, social, even parts of the land. The archipelago we are standing on, which we call the Philippines, is one of the sites predicted to go under water."

"Global warming is part of the divine plan for the healing of the planet," Solina says. "It is caused by the abuse of nature and is an indictment of science and educational systems that deny the existence of the spirit, science that recognizes only self-serving ends. All disarray is caused only and ultimately by the disconnection from the Energy Source, causing, for instance, the unstoppable wars in Iraq."

High soul quotient

"The high soul quotient of the Filipino attracts the religious groups to come here to fill up as in a gas station," says De la Torre. "They know that the portal is located here. These groups have always something to share but they invariably go home with much more. One Japanese cult based in Quezon City offers faith healing services for free. In return they ask permission to extract an amount of energy from the patient. From this spiritual technology, some get sick. Apparently, there is an energy crisis on the etheric, astral, spiritual plane—a fight for life forces, even a grab for them—the newest battleground!

"Some visiting groups do it on a conscious level. The unaware access it by hiring our caregivers and healers. Some faith traditions (like meditation), however, have been usurped by denominations of different nationalities—Nepalese, Chinese, Koreans, Indians, etc., some not so pure of intention. We have to be very aware because soul force is our wealth. Like material wealth it can be depleted by the truly needy or exploitative.

"So why is the world suddenly discovering the Filipino?" asks Solina. "A director of a hospital in the US was quoted as saying, 'Without Filipino nurses, this hospital will not run.' There are nurses from all over the world. Why not Thai nurses? Chinese nurses? Scandinavian nurses? Because beyond their skills and their training, the Filipino healers—doctors, nurses, teachers, caregivers and *yayas*—have something invisible that the foreigner cannot define. The June 12 Independence Day planetary chart of the Philippines has a mystic rectangle. It energetically connects us to people around the world through the moon (Mother God). On planet earth, we are Motherland.

"The western world needs healers," continues Solina. "They have a woundedness that is very deep, not curable by medicine or surgery because it is not a physical but a soul wound. (Which hints at why there are so many incurable diseases like cancer and AIDS.) The woundedness will have to be treated on a deeper level, through one's etheric, astral and spiritual bodies—our three higher bodies that intertwine the physical body. The world is at the beginning of a new consciousness that will teach the individual how to reconnect to his higher source. To learn lessons of forgiveness, of how to do things for others, to realize that if you ask for nothing you will get everything."

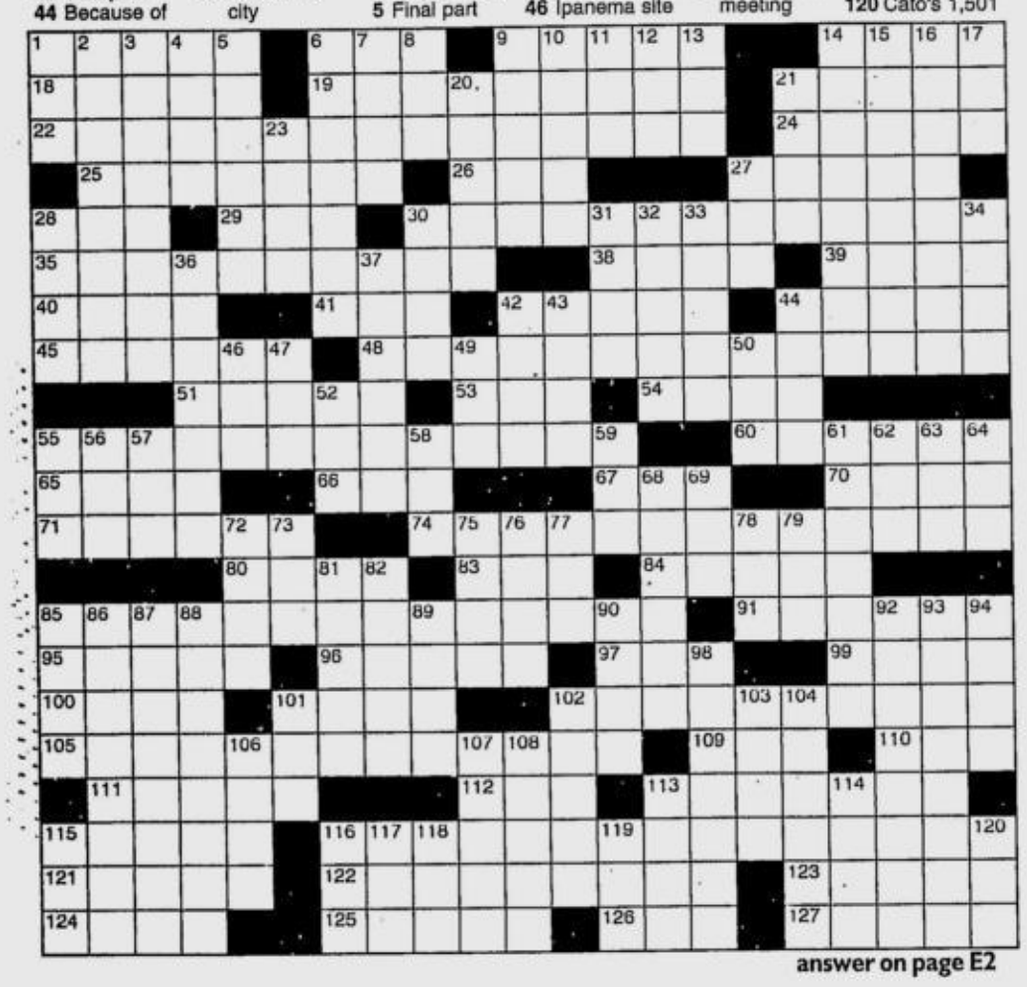
The Filipino heart is bigger than others' with deep resources of unending patience, understanding and compassion. Healing one's country and the world is the Filipino's mission. That is why we have been bestowed an abundance of magical gifts.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

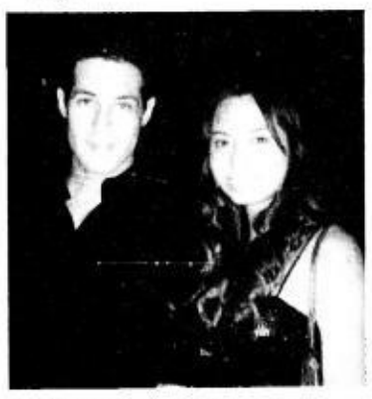
PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo — **O WOW!**

ACROSS
1 Ending for land or sea
6 Prefix with friendly
9 French friars
14 Harper of "Her Alibi"
18 Old highway in Alaska
19 They resemble large limas
21 Calico pony
22 Theme for the 1939 New York World's Fair
24 Carrying a weapon
25 Metaphors' relatives
26 Metal in rocks
27 Shuteye
28 Pricey stone
29 Put the kibosh on
30 Name of the boat in "Show Boat"
35 Fit perfectly, as a garment
38 Lacerate
39 "It can't be!"
40 Green Gables girl
41 27-Across phase
42 Thespian
44 Because of
45 Ari of "Kate & Allie"
48 Oversize frankfurter
51 Ship of 1492
53 Had a snack
54 Char
55 So early that no conclusions can be made
60 Distorted
65 — harm (be innocuous)
66 "Shame on you!"
67 German cry
70 "Cogito, — sum"
71 Shack
74 Where demo cars are displayed
80 Broccoli — (salad green)
83 Toothy gp.?
84 Cheri of "Scary Movie"
85 Stick to prescribed procedures
91 My friend, in Marseilles
95 On — -to-know basis
96 More certain
97 Dotted cube
99 Oklahoma city
100 Campus VIP
101 College in New Rochelle
102 Powerful pincushion?
105 Book before Isaiah
109 Hostel
110 Bit of land in "la mer"
111 Eliot Ness foe Frank
112 Regulation
113 Pop rocker Gwen
115 He sang "Tiny Bubbles"
116 Completely
121 Pays to play poker
122 Reassuring words
123 With no letup
124 "Just to — the safe side …"
125 Have — for news
126 Sit-up targets
127 Human trunks

DOWN
1 Logging tool
2 Near-miss
3 Bitterness
4 Tropical tree
5 Final part
6 Alternative to Paxil or Wellbutrin
7 Meowers
8 Prefix for "egg"
9 Scrub, as a launch
10 Round cap
11 Part of ABA
12 Grammy winner Brian
13 Compass pt.
14 Fatigues
15 Intertwined
16 Go aboard
17 Turf
20 "There's — Out Tonight" (1961 hit)
21 — Alto
23 Mixed bag
27 Camera type, briefly
28 Monroe's asset, briefly
30 Singer Perry
31 Conductor Klemperer
32 Garish lights
33 Canal boat
34 Musical synthesizer pioneer
36 Doesn't stop
37 Makes lean, as beef
42 Env. alerter
43 Role for Liz
44 Mrs. David Copperfield
46 Ipanema site
47 Nestle's — -Caps
49 Table wood
50 "Yee- —!"
52 Explosive inits.
55 QB stats
56 Big-top cry
57 — rampage
58 Endorses
59 Huge fight
61 Fixed the inner layer of
62 Not amateur
63 Freud's "I"
64 Palme — (prize at Cannes)
68 Rapper Artis Ivey's stage name
69 Torrid
72 Trampled
73 Swerve, as a ship
75 Can't stand
76 Stench
77 She served in WWII
78 Org. dues-payer
79 Swing to and —
81 Lhasa — (dogs)
82 — Magli shoes
85 Rages
86 Two-person meeting
87 Tilt the body toward
88 Stretch out
89 Spoken
90 Take way too much of, briefly
92 Holy-oil applier
93 Thousands squared
94 Not active
98 Magazine bigwigs
101 "Don't mind — do!"
102 Take a — silence
103 Certain first-floor apartment
104 By walking
106 Western Indians
107 Best Actor nominee Edward James —
108 Unglossy finish
113 Gore
114 — cost (gratis)
115 Little bit
116 U.S. health watchdog
117 Silver or Ely
118 Lennon's second wife
119 Item in a pod
120 Cato's 1,501



answer on page E2


HANDSOME pair Adriano Kartuliares and Divine Lee

GORGEOUS sisters Ana Amigo-Antonio and Faith Amigo

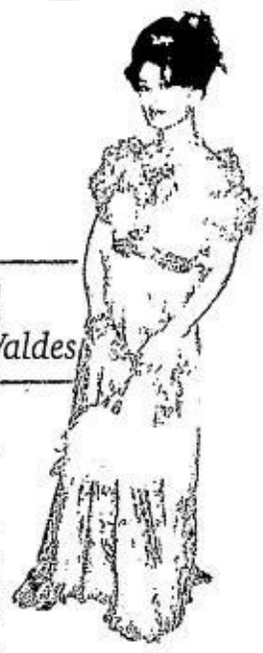
PRETTY sisters Annika and Trina Martirez

BENCH big boss Ben Chan and Miguel Pastor

BIKRAM yoga instructors Hillary Edesses and Frank Simek

MISS Ugly No More winner Lou Victorioso and Beverly Hills 6750 owner Jessica Rodriguez-Bunevacz

The many paths to beauty and wellness



TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

IN OUR QUEST FOR THE PERfect body, there are many roads to take. There is the athletic approach, involving physical exercise, such as countless, grueling hours in the gym or sports like running and badminton. Then there are the lifestyle regimes, such as Bikram yoga or Pilates. Lastly there are the fit and fun activities like flamenco, belly dancing and hip-hop.

These days, the holy grail of body perfectionists can easily be achieved with a phone call. With advanced super lasers and zappers that can melt fat and add curves, Beverly Hills 6750 Cosmetic Surgery & Skin Institute (tel. 8938888 or visit www.bh6750.com) can execute amazing transformations in a relatively short amount of time.

The Search for Miss Ugly (No More) was the ultimate proof of concept. Together with Smart Communications, GMA 7's "Sis" and this paper, Beverly Hills 6750 owners **David** and **Jessica Bunevacz** zeroed in on three deserving ladies to undergo massive treatments and services worth almost a million pesos. Surgical, dermatological and dental procedures were done on these ladies as they were physically transformed into modern-day Aphrodites.

At last week's proclamation night at Teatrino Theater in the Promenade in Greenhills, the remarkably beautiful ladies were presented to the astonished guests. Contestant **Lou Victorioso** garnered the most Smart text votes, thus becoming the first Miss Ugly (No More) winner. With her wonderful singing voice, Lou could be well on her way to becoming a big star.

Model search on TV

In a less radical but just-as-exciting beauty and body search, Bench launches its search for its next billboard superstar with a reality TV show Yoda-istically titled "Be Bench The Model Search." Its pilot episode airs at 10:30 tonight on ABS-CBN.

At the press conference at the Capitan's Bar at Mandarin Oriental Hotel, the remaining top 30 model-aspirants, whittled down from thousands of applicants, were introduced to media. Only 12 hopefuls were finally selected to be part of the search.

Speaking of perfect bodies, I bumped into **Francine Prieto**, my beauteous would-be cousin at Bench, and we enjoyed judging and comparing our selections from the great-looking candidates. Sitting beside Francine is proof positive that curves do make heads turn, as countless eyes kept swiveling in her direction.

Retail giant **Ben Chan** has really pushed up the bar in terms of ingenious marketing concepts with this new TV show. Why pay for a 30-seconder when you can have a 30-minuter? It seems there is nothing that can stop this creative retail magnate from even more greatness. Continuous bright ideas just follow from him such as the upcoming new line of baby wear by new-mom-again **Kris Aquino** and **Lucy Torres**.

Flamenco-fit

For me, the best form of exercise is dancing because of the free expression of motion and the outfits that go with each dance. Each flamenco class I take with sultry instructor **Ginajane Grey** (visit www.ginajanegrey.com) is an opportunity to dress in recital-style costume. I have shelved my belly dancing outfits this year but will resume classes soon in time for our recital in November.

Hip-hop-healthy

The ultimate dance form, with its aerodynamic moves that defy gravity, is hip-hop. This all-around dance workout is even more amazing with the performer singing at the same time. Swatch's latest and hottest endorser Billy Crawford has the awesome ability to hip and hop with tireless stamina.

At the Swatch Send-Off Party for new Hello Kitty baby **Maryss** from Paris, Embassy Super Club was transformed into a hip-hop dance hall with Gift Gate queen **Virgie Ramos** and Swatch regional head **Olivier Trolle** as premier hosts. Maryss is the energetic choreographer of superstars like **Justin Timberlake**, **Beyoncé** and, of course, **Billy Crawford**.

Introduced that evening were the eye-candy-licious-looking Kitty Girls, the newest sexy girl band. Right after them, the amazing All-Stars performed a competition piece before their US trip to defend their championship title at the World Hip-Hop Convention. Truly, the Philippines has been blessed with great talent in almost all fields. We should be so proud of the All-Stars.

Generous real-estate princess **Divine Lee** offered to sponsor the plane fare of one All-Star dancer when Embassy Club owner **Tim Yap** talked about the lack of funds of the group. Let's hope that other donors pitch in as well. Good karma does come around to those that share openly.

Skin-deep

What's a great body without great skin or wonderfully enhancing makeup? Beauty has a price but also has its benefits. HSBC Premier members were treated to an afternoon workshop of beauty at an HSBC Lifestyle Event featuring YSL and Guerlain. Luxasia senior product manager **Vanessa Mayuga** shared the beauty secret of YSL Touche Eclat, an amazing concealer that erases all blemishes. The bonus part is the discount that HSBC Premier members got and the free gifts from YSL and Guerlain.

Rustan's Department Store had a similar beauty affair where clients had free makeovers and product sampling. On the way to the counters, I passed by my fave false eyelashes brand, Shu Uemura, to stock up on the latest designs. Unfortunately, they ran out of their wonderful eyelash adhesive on that trip.

Guerlain has special products that make the skin glow with perfect skintones. Their refreshing scents are divine as well. It was a pleasant afternoon to spend with lovely ladies like Hotel Elizabeth owner **Beth Fernando** and Giordano owner **Zita Lim**.

There are truly limitless options to attain the perfect body and enhance beauty, but none of these matter unless one starts with a gracious heart

INQUIRER's Kat Holigores and Philip Cu-unjieng

BEVERLY Hills 6750 owners David and Jessica Bunevacz with excellent doctors, dentists and staff and finalists of Miss Ugly No More

SWATCH regional head Olivier Trolle, Christian Bautista, Matteo Guidicelli, Gift Gate/Swatch boss Virgie Ramos, Sea Princess, Bruno Folster, Billy Crawford and hip-hop choreographer Maryss from Paris

BE BENCH The Model Search TV Show with endorsers Rica Peralejo and Piolo Pascual

"BEAUTY relative" Francine Prieto

SWATCH brand manager birthday boy James Locsin

HIP-HOP dancer and singer Billy Crawford (center), Jeanine Buenaventura, Bryan Prieto, Charles Cabrera and Naomi Alipio

BENCH super couple. Finance VP Nenita and president Virgilio Lim

LONG-TIME friends Rowell Santiago, Ram Antonio and Tristan Choa

GUERLAIN girls Sharon Lim, Iris Eleazar and Trish Chua and customers Beth Fernando and Zita Lim

NEW girl band The Kitty Girls

Good heart

There are truly limitless options to attain the perfect body and enhance beauty, but none of these matter unless one starts with a gracious heart. It is our inner glow that makes for real beauty as opposed to just being plain pretty.

My favorite Bikram yoga instructor, **Frank Simek**, is one of those old souls that taught me about inner peace. All part of the many roads we take on the path towards outer enlightenment.

E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph.

GMA 7 family. Gigi Santiago-Lara, Ricky Reyes, Entertainment SVP Wilma Galvante and Darling de Jesus

BENCH super boys Zanjoe Marudo, Jon Mullaly, Rafael Rosell and Sam Milby

HSBC Premier top ladies Valerie Villar and Deisa Abiog, Luxasia beauties Trish Chua of Guerlain, and Vanessa Mayuga of YSL

WORLD Hip-Hop Champions The All-Stars

Save when you shop at SM's 3-Day Sale event

An exciting variety of merchandise and services have been specially marked down at up to 50% off during the 3-Day Sale event of SM City North Edsa (including The Block), SM City Sucat and SM Supercenter Molino on the weekend of August 3, 4 and 5.

Highlighting SM Supermalls' first 3-Day Sale of the season are multiple value-for-money offers from the SM retail stores, SM affiliate establishments, and hundreds of participating mall tenants.

Shop 'n Win

Capping the exciting value extras for 3-Day Sale shoppers are 20 units of **NEXT BASE portable DVD players with 7-inch color monitors** which will be given away in the raffle promo.

The prizes are allotted as follows: 10 units for 10 winners from SM City North Edsa and The Block; 5 units for five winners from SM City Sucat; and another 5 units for five winners from SM Supercenter Molino.

Every P500 single-receipt purchase (cash or charge) from SM Department Store, SM Supermarket, SM Hypermarket, or from any participating mall establishment (food or non-food) entitles a shopper to join.

SM City NORTH EDSA

THE BLOCK SM City North Edsa

Catch the excitement of first-class shopping at The Block at SM City North Edsa, where dozens of high-end shops offer amazing discounts on a wide selection of signature merchandise.

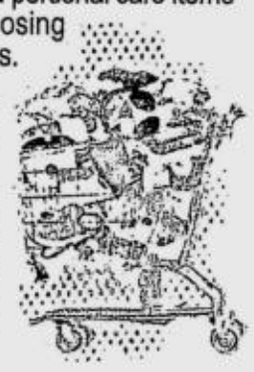
The Block is also home to fine dining restos, al fresco cafés, state-of-the-art SM Cinema theaters, and health & beauty establishments.

Mall hours extended until 11 pm on Aug. 3 & 4.

Raffle draw will be held on Aug. 5, 9:30 pm.

SM City SUCAT

Fabulous finds await all shoppers on August 3, 4 and 5. SM Department Store at Bldg. B offers huge savings on apparel, shoes and fashion accessories. SM Hypermarket at Bldg. A invites the whole family to pick out loads of fresh produce and grocery items. Home appliances and personal care items are also for the choosing at attractive discounts.



Mall hours will be extended until 11 pm on Aug. 4.

Raffle draw for 5 units of NEXT BASE portable DVD players will be held on Aug. 5 at 10 pm.

SM MOLINO

SM Hypermarket at SM Supercenter Molino is a-buzz with lots of shopping offers on each day of the sale!

The Event Center of the mall is ready for the 3-Day Sale raffle draws, scheduled as follows:

- August 3 - 8 pm
- August 4 - 8 pm
- August 5 - 8 pm / 9 pm / 10 pm

Five units of Next Base portable DVD players (with 7" color monitors) are at stake at one unit per draw.

Meet to Eat at SM FOODCOURT

Pause awhile from your shopping sortie to sample a smorgasbord of choices at SM Foodcourt in SM North Edsa, SM Sucat and SM Molino. You can also join the 3-Day Sale raffle when you eat at SM Foodcourt.

Plus, you have a chance to WIN instant prizes from Knorr, and tickets to the Black Eyed Peas' Bangkok, Thailand concert from Pepsi. Only at SM Foodcourt!

SM CINEMA

Relax. See a Movie.

SM Cinema – with its wide screens, superior audio and video facilities, and air-conditioned comfort – offers you the latest movies you can watch in between your shopping bouts.

Get your tickets at least one hour before showtime. Every single purchase of four tickets entitles you to join the 3-Day Sale raffle promo.

SM City NORTH EDSA

THE BLOCK SM City North Edsa

SM City SUCAT

SM SUPERMARKET MOLINO

get a chance to WIN NEXT BASE®

Portable DVD Player with 17.78cm (7") color monitor

for every P500 single or accumulated purchase

SDV97-B

See mechanics poster for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3208, Series of 2007.

Per DTI-CAVITE Permit No. 193, Series of 2007.

BAN CHU and Mia Quiazon

WITH their family

Love songs for the bride

WITH RELATIVES FLYING in from abroad, Ban Chu and Mia Quiazon made sure they were hands-on in all the wedding plans.

No detail escaped the bride's meticulous eye.

The couple recently said their "I do's" during a solemn Catholic wedding at the Sacred Heart Parish Church in San Fernando, Pampanga with Rev. Fr. Sonny Pahed as celebrant.

The bride walked down the aisle as the groom's niece and cousin sang "From this Moment." Quiazon wore an off-white, off-shoulder princess cut gown of two-toned gazar and heavy Swarovski beadwork designed by Marlon Tuazon.

To celebrate the unity of the Chu and Quiazon families, a dinner-dance was held at the Grand Palazzo Royale in Angeles City Pampanga. Many of the guests sang for the newlyweds.

The groom surprised his bride by serenading her with their favorite love songs.

WITH principal sponsors

EYE-CATCHING fondant cake

Health hazards of the call center lifestyle

The lifestyle of a call center agent no matter how fit they are isn't an ideal one. The long hours and erratic schedule eventually take a toll on their bodies. Another disadvantage of this job is that they end up gaining a few extra pounds due to their sedentary lifestyle. Faced with these problems, what might come to their aid?

The answer is simple – a combination of regular exercise and proper nutrition.

Let's take Zinc as an example. One of the most important benefits of Zinc is that it sustains our bodies on the inside, as well as the outside. It synthesizes protein, which in turn leads to growth, thereby improving our form and the way our bodies look. Zinc strengthens our bodies.

Another essential mineral is Iron. Iron is one of the most important nutrients our bodies need. What does it do? Iron actually enables the brain to be more active and alert. Because it's extremely essential in transporting oxygen throughout the body, lack of Iron may lead to poor brain performance, as the brain needs oxygen to function fully. Once the brain is provided with ample oxygen, the mind is sharpened.

Long and irregular working hours of a call center agent don't have to be something to dread, for as long as there's exercise and right nutrition.

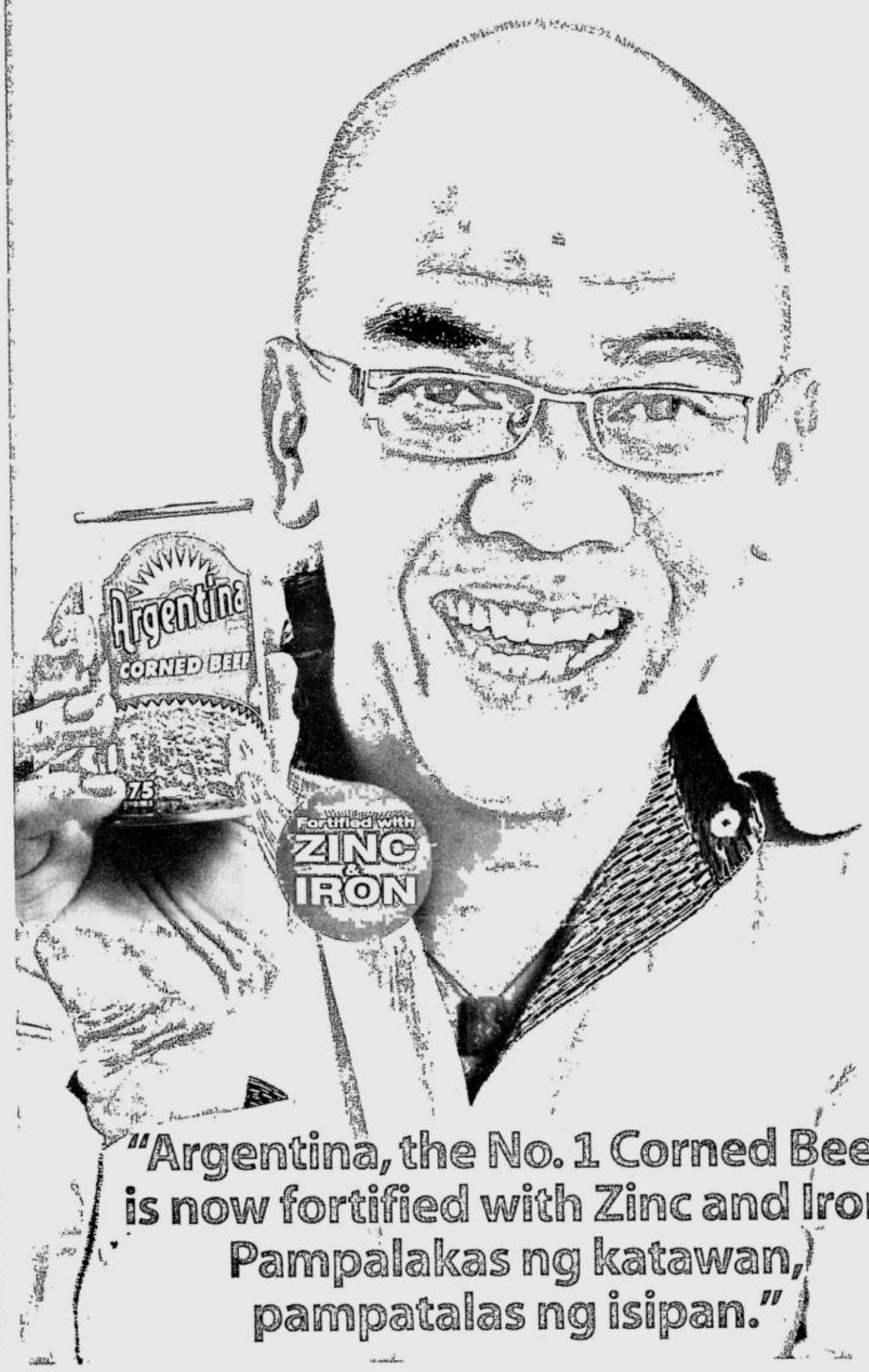
With this, Argentina Corned Beef is a great help. It's now even fortified with Zinc and Iron for all the body's needs. To top it all, it's delicious and available in many variants: Regular, Lite, Hot & Spicy, Extra Long Shreds and Gold Label Premium Corned Beef. And it's affordable too.

No wonder it's the no. 1 corned beef!

Make Argentina Corned Beef your partner in staying healthy today – while still having fun at work.

HOME WORLD
Your one-stop home shop
candles
• scented deep green bamboo pillars
• available in 3 sizes
SM
We've got it all for you! DEPARTMENT STORE

Alam mo na ba ang latest Buzz?



"Argentina, the No. 1 Corned Beef, is now fortified with Zinc and Iron. Pampalakas ng katawan, pampatalas ng isipan."

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the INQUIRER, PO. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.

BALDERAS GOLDEN WEDDING

Engineer **Angelino** and **Emerita Balderas** celebrated recently their 50th wedding anniversary at the San Nicolas Parish Church, Balaoan, La Union. Reception was held at the Central Bank Auditorium, San Fernando, La Union.

CRUZ-VARQUEZ

Patrick Cruz, son of Reynaldo and Lourdes Cruz, wed recently Diolina Varquez, daughter of Pedro and Macaria Varquez, at the St. Francis Church on Shaw Boulevard. Reception was held at Northeast Greenhills Social Hall in San Juan. The bride wore a sweetheart neckline gown of silk gazar.

SANCHEZ DEBUT

Joan Mariel Evangelista Sanchez, daughter of **Jun** and **Glo Sanchez**, celebrated recently her 18th birthday at the Sakura Village, Lipa City. She is a student at De la Salle, Lipa.

LEGASPI-DEOCAMPO

Raffy Legaspi, son of **Rodrigo** and **Justina Legaspi**, wed recently **Melany Deocampo**, daughter of **Johnny** and **Mila Deocampo**, at La Veranda Garden, Molave, Marikina City.

LORZANO DEBUT

Karen Lorzano, daughter of **Eldie** and **Donna Lorzano**, celebrated her 18th birthday recently at the Events Center, Sico, Lipa City. She is a BS Tourism student at the Lipa City Colleges.

Dream honeymoon package

HYATT HOTEL AND CASINO MANILA IS bringing back its exclusive, special Dream Honeymoon Package. The offer is available to the first 20 couples, who confirm between July and August their wedding booking in the hotel's Ballroom. The package includes return airfare and two nights' accommodation in selected Hyatt Partner Hotels. The hotel will also upgrade the couple's complimentary room to the Presidential Suite, including 24-hour butler service and full Regency Club benefits. Call 2451234 local 7524.

PURELY PERSONAL
Josephine Darang

New light of the church militant

ST. JOHN Marie Vianney, Saint Philomena and Venerable Pauline-Marie Jaricot

THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION OF the feast of St. Philomena dwells on the theme "St. Philomena, New Light of the Church Militant."

Novena Masses will begin at 6:30 p.m. after the novena prayers at 6 p.m., Aug. 2-10, at the Holy Redeemer Parish or Santuario de Santa Philomena in Masambong, QC.

The Fiesta Mass at noon on Aug. 11 will be celebrated by Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco. Other Masses are at 6 a.m. by Fr. Glenn Oracio, parish priest; 9 a.m., Fr. Asis Balao; 4 p.m., Fr. Orlando Aceron, OP; and 6:30 p.m., Fr. Jojo Zerrudo.

Novena Mass celebrants are Surigao Bishop Antonieto Cabajog, Aug. 2; Masbate Bishop Joel Baylon, Aug. 3; Archbishop Emeritus Pedro Dean of Palo, Aug. 4; Naval Bishop Filomeno Bactol, Aug. 5; Jaro Archbishop Angel Lagdameo, Aug. 6; Urdaneta Bishop Jack Jose, Aug. 7; San Carlos Bishop Jose Advincula, Aug. 8; Tarlac Bishop Florentino Cinenze, Aug. 9; and Prelature of Infanta Bishop Rolando Tria Tirona, Aug. 10.

A procession will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Aug. 5.

After every Novena Mass, the Holy Relic of St. Philomena will be venerated and devotees will be anointed with her holy oil. The Universal Living Rosary Association of St. Philomena organizes the annual fiesta celebration. Call 3651011 or text 0918-5470605.

Devotee

St. John Marie Vianney, patron saint of diocesan priests, was greatly devoted to St. Philomena. He composed her Litany and propagated her devotion throughout France.

The parish priest of Ars, a little town in France, he came to know of the wonderful power of St. Philomena through his friend, Venerable Pauline Jaricot, founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Living Rosary.

The French lady was cured of a terrible disease, that was considered incurable, in 1835 through the powerful intercession of the saint when Pauline visited St. Philomena's shrine in Mugnano, Italy.

The miraculous cure led to Philomena's canonization by Pope Gregory XVI in 1837 after a thorough investigation of the case by the Sacred Congregation of Rites.

When she left Mugnano after her cure, Mademoiselle Jaricot brought a large relic of St. Philomena, a portion of which she gave to the Curé of Ars. She said: "Have full confidence in this great saint; she will obtain for you all that you ask."

Receiving the relic with intense joy, the Curé enshrined it in an altar he had built in his church. Thousands of people came to invoke St. Philomena's aid and innumerable cures, conversions and miracles were recorded.

Fr. Jojo Zerrudo, spiritual director of the Living Rosary Association, also enthroned a statue of St. Philomena when he was parish priest of Holy Redeemer Church and held Novena Masses every week.

Other devotees

Other well-known saints devoted to St. Philomena were St. Padre Pio, St. Anthony Mary Claret; St. John Neumann; St. Frances Xavier Cabrini; St. Peter Channel, who called her his auxiliary in his missionary apostolate; and St. Peter Julian Eymard, founder of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers.

Those who wish to enroll in the Living Rosary can write to the National Center of St. Philomena, 430 Mayon St., 1114 QC.

Padre Pio's Mass

Nena Tan Gatue, who recently visited the Church of St. Padre Pio in San Giovanni Rotondo, spent for the reprinting of the booklet of St. Padre Pio's Mass, instead on her golden wedding anniversary on May 6. She is married to Alejandro Tan Gatue and has one son, Dr. Philip Tan Gatue of the Philippine General Hospital.

Tita Nena conceived her only son after 19 years of praying to Padre Pio. Now she is spreading the information on Padre Pio's Mass so people will understand why he celebrated Mass for three hours.

Padre Pio suffered with Christ during the Consecration, feeling the pain from the stigmata in his hands, feet and on his side.

Tita Nena suggests sharing the booklet to gain graces. It is available for free at the Philippine Center of St. Padre Pio, 188 E. Rodriguez St., Eastwood, QC. Call 6333668. Readers can also write to me c/o INQUIRER. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed long envelope for easier mailing.

Ode to Mary

The Magnificat Association of the Philippines is holding the "Ode to Mary" concert at 8 p.m., Aug. 11, at the Bahay Tsinoy, Anda Street corner Carballo Street, Intramuros, Manila.

Featured are international concert pianist Raul Sunico and the University of Santo Tomas Symphony Orchestra, with the special participation of Dulce. The concert is for the Footprints of Mama Mary book, Theotokos Shrine in Cebu and the Mariological Society of the Philippines. Call 5330266 or text 0916-4197970. Tickets are also available at the gate.

Holy Octave

The feast of the Father of All Mankind is on Aug. 5. A Holy Octave to God the Father begins at 5 p.m. today and ends Aug. 4 at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Palanan, Makati. The feast will be celebrated at 2 p.m., Aug. 5.

Ordination

The Servants of the Risen Christ (SRC) will have two new priests with the ordination of Rev. Romeo Solomon Manalata and Rev. Justin Leody Cerdeno at 3 p.m., Aug. 4, at the St. Therese of the Child Church, Ramos, Tarlac. Ordaining prelate is Most Rev. Florentino Cinense, bishop of the diocese of Tarlac.

23rd anniversary

July 29 is the feast of St. Martha. The organization St. Martha's Vineyard will celebrate its 23rd year of helping the poor with an "Evening Down Memory Lane" at 7 p.m., Aug. 1, at the Meralco Light House. Romy Posadas and his band will play. Call 8904516.

EMILY'S POST
Emily Marcelo

Other woman 'repairs' damaged relationship

DEAR EMILY,

My husband and I have been married for 15 years and have two children.

We live in the United States but visit our respective families in the Philippines. Our marriage has been rocky from the start and that has built a lot of resentment between us.

I was pregnant when we got married. He did not have a loving relationship with our firstborn son. He refuses to help with household chores although we both work.

The turning point was when we went to the Philippines last summer. My children and I returned to the US a week before he did. He stayed in his hometown for another week.

Things were very different when he came home. He was more indifferent than usual. He started sleeping in our daughter's room and spent many nights in the office with the door closed.

I tried to speak to him. He told me he did not know what he wanted anymore, whether to remain married or be single. He even suggested that we started dating other people(!) as there could be somebody out there for us.

No matter how hard he tried, he said he could not be a good father. He said he needed some time to himself. I tried to understand and sought help from our parish priest and a counselor.

I could not sleep. I could not eat. Everything was so uncertain. Will he walk out on us tomorrow? Next week? What will happen to my children? Then, he said he needed to go back to the Philippines again. He said he needed to clear his head.

He was gone for two weeks and I discovered from his e-mail that he was having an affair with the sister of his brother's wife. I already caught him chatting with a girl on the web cam but he said she was the girlfriend of his high-school buddy.

I was shocked to the bone. This woman, who was almost family! Did I mention that she had three illegitimate children with a married man? Did I also mention that a cousin of theirs is also involved with a has-been action star who has fathered numerous children with different women? Does infidelity run in families like a disease? What kind of family bears women of this breed?

I confronted my husband when he came back. He found all his things packed when he got back. I kicked him out of our house. He said he just led her on because he needed someone to talk to.

He denied he was in love with the woman saying he quickly lost interest when they could not find anything more to talk about.

He begged and cried and pleaded. He has shown remorse and repentance in different ways, in all ways. It took months, lots of therapy and counseling.

My children and I have taken him back. He is like a different man. He is now the perfect husband and father. He told me he needed to make this mistake to "wake up" from his deep slumber.

I have made it clear how much I did not trust him despite his efforts. Because of his mistake he feels his soul is already burning in hell although he is still on earth. He fears he will die without hearing me say I love him.

We are back together again and everything is well. But I continue to struggle with forgiving this unrepentant woman who wrecked our family. Did I also mention how this other woman and my sister-in-law gossiped about our married life? How can a woman who bore three illegitimate children criticize me? How do I forgive this?

GHIA126

Was not your relationship with your husband rocky from the start? Was he not this creep who would not help in the house, was not a nice father to your son and many other things you mentioned that I could not include for lack of space?

This woman did not try to wreck an idyllic love affair! She just acted like a chiropractor or *hilot* who aligned the dislocated joints of your marriage.

I am not condoning the affair. But can you stop feeling your pain and heartache for a nanosecond and look at the overall effect of this affair on your marriage?

You and your husband needed this traumatic experience to revive your dying marriage. It needed an intervention —deep and painful—to shake your husband to the core of his being into appreciating and holding on to the family he already had.

Looking at it another way, this affair was the very toxic chemotherapy you needed to remove the cancer that gnawed at your 15-year relationship.

If you are still suffering despite the complete overhaul and reversal for the better of your relationship, what more do you want the heavens to do for you? Sometimes, it takes three to make a marriage work.

Don't you just want to thank God for this small favor?

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Visit www.pbs.gov.ph and listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 pm, Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

S	C	A	P	E		E	C	O		A	B	B	E	S
A	L	C	A	N		F	A	V	A	B	E	A	N	S
W	O	R	L	D	O	F	T	O	M	O	R	R	O	W
	S	I	M	I	L	E	S		O	R	E			
G	E	M		N	I	X		C	O	T	T	O	N	B
L	O	O	K	G	O	O	D	O	N			T	E	A
A	N	N	E			R	E	M		A	C	T	O	R
M	E	Y	E	R	S		F	O	O	T	L	O	N	G
			P	I	N	T	A		A	T	E		S	E
T	O	O	S	O	O	N	T	O	K	N	O	W		
D	O	N	O			T	S	K			A	C	H	
S	H	A	N	T	Y			S	H	O	W	R	O	O
			R	A	A	B		A	D	A		O	T	E
F	O	L	L	O	W	P	R	O	T	O	C	O	L	
A	N	E	E	D		S	U	R	E	R		D	I	E
D	E	A	N		I	O	N	A			V	O	O	D
S	O	N	G	O	F	S	O	L	O	M	O	N		I
	N	I	T	T	I				L	A	W		S	T
D	O	N	H	O		F	R	O	M	T	O	P	T	O
A	N	T	E	S		D	O	N	O	T	F	E	A	R
B	E	O	N			A	N	O	S	E		A	B	S

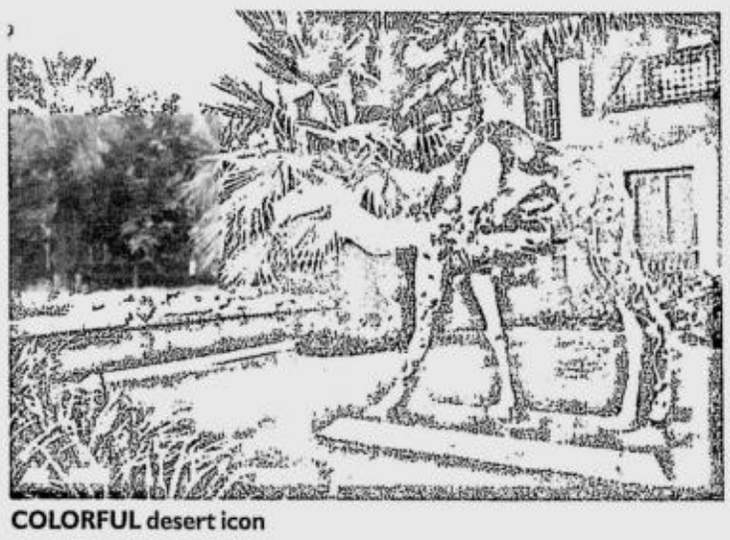
												T	E	S
										P	I	N	T	O
										A	R	M	E	D
										S	L	E	E	P
O	S	S	O	M										
H	N	O												
O	H	N	O											
D	U	E	T	O										
H	O	T	D	O	G									
W	A	R	P	E	D									
E	R	G	O											
F	L	O	O	R										
M	O	N	A	M	I									
E	N	I	D											
L	L													
I	L	E												
I														
M	O	M												
D														
T	O	R	S	I										

Sunday LIFESTYLE Travel

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inquirer.net/lifestyle
Text us your feedback:
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Desert Wonderland

Dubai will soon have the world's tallest building, biggest mall and largest airport



COLORFUL desert icon

Text and photos by Patrick S. Larraga
Contributor

THE MORNING I DECIDED to point my camera at the iconic Burj al Arab, the sun was harsh but the air was surprisingly hazy. "Desert sand," explained our guide.

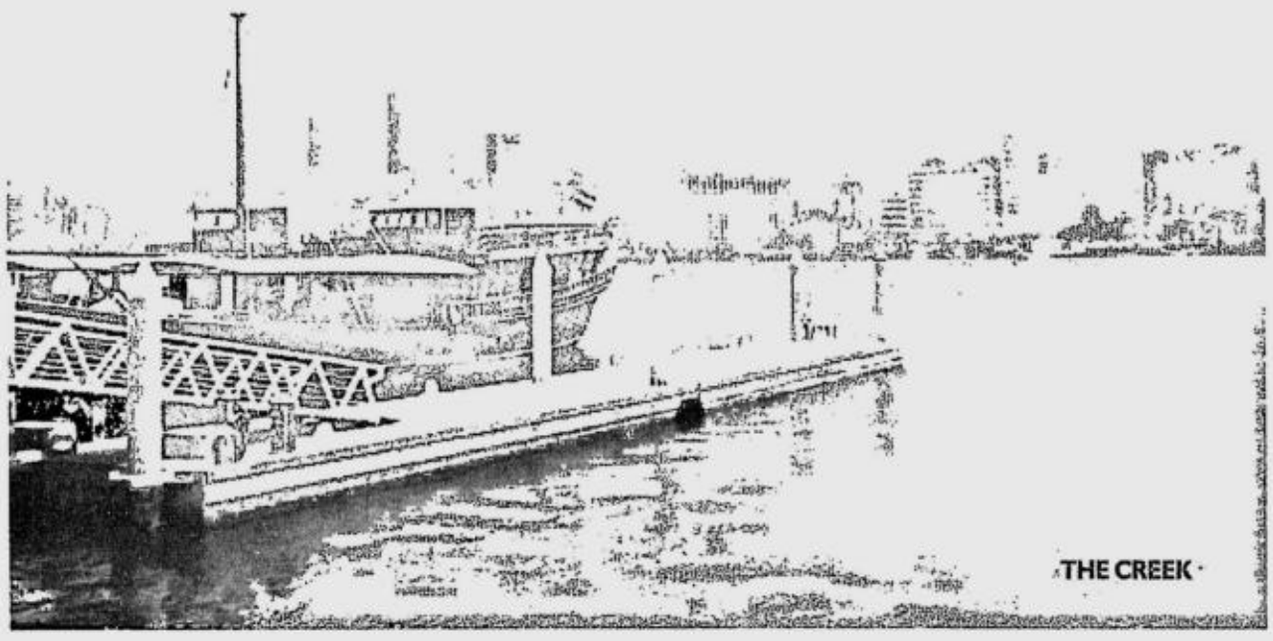
But the haze was probably due more to the frenetic construction activity than the proximity of the desert. They say one in every six cranes used in the world today is in Dubai.

The emirate, one of seven making up the United Arab Emirates (UAE), has some of the largest—Imeldific comes to mind—construction projects in the world.

High-end condominiums and office buildings surrounded by lush parks rise improbably out of the desert. The Burj Dubai, the centerpiece of the $20-billion Downtown Burj Dubai complex, will become the world's tallest building when completed, topping other pretenders to the throne by nothing less than the proverbial mile, perhaps to ensure Dubai holds the distinction for some time thereafter.

The emirate is compiling other record-setting accomplishments. Dubai Mall is expected to become the world's biggest upon completion. What will be the world's largest airport and cargo hub is rising 40 km south of the city center.

At present, the world's third largest indoor ski slope at the Mall of the Emirates offers winter delights while the sun blazes outside.



THE CREEK

No longer an oil economy

Dubai's mega projects may raise questions about sustainability and environmental impact but there is no denying the city has attracted investors and tourists.

While the discovery of oil in the 1950s sparked Dubai's boom, today only about 6 percent of its revenues comes from oil.

Dubai aspires to host some 15 million tourists by 2010, while the Philippines, with its 7,000 islands, is targeting only five million by that date. And, irony of ironies, Filipinos provide essential support to Dubai's thriving hospitality industry.

PINOY lifeguard on duty

Some 165,000 Filipinos work in the UAE. Dubai has about a third with 60,000. Even immigration officers speak a smattering of Filipino.

Mark, a former philosophy instructor in a computer college in Makati, was Kofi Annan's personal butler when the former United Nations secretary-general was in Dubai. He proudly says he also assisted Hollywood stars like Morgan Freeman and Orlando Bloom.

The money is good, Mark says. The income is tax-free. The employer provides free housing in villages complete with sports and recreational facilities. Mark says he is happy.

But Robert, a waiter in a hotel restaurant in a small vacation town over 100 km from downtown Dubai, is unable to hide the sadness in his eyes. He also left a teaching job in the Philippines for his current job.

In the town where Robert works, the arid nothingness of the desert gives way to rocky, desolate mountains.

Robert's complaints are many, from a "slave-driver" boss to the absence of intellectual stimulation.

STREET scene in the old quarter

Humble and intimate

A visitor who gets sidetracked by these small, personal struggles, is reminded of what he came to see—the Dubai Museum. While Dubai now seems bold, brash and extra-large, the museum has recreated the humble and intimate city of the past.

The museum, ensconced in the restored Al Fahidi Fort erected around 1787, shows a Dubai of dark, labyrinthine souks selling pearls and spices. The exhibits trace the development of Dubai from a few thousand years ago when the area was filled with small fishing communities.

In pre-boom Dubai, life revolved around the natural inlet called the Creek, where ships traveling from the Indian subcontinent to the Arabian peninsula and to Africa moored.

By the turn of the century, Dubai transformed itself into the major trading center it is now; its souks then were already reputed to be the largest in the Arabian peninsula.

Wonders never cease in Dubai but perhaps the pinnacle of the emirate's mega projects are the three Palm Islands (I thought one was impressive enough) and the World, a replica of the earth and its continents, to rise on land now being "reclaimed" from the waters of the Persian Gulf.

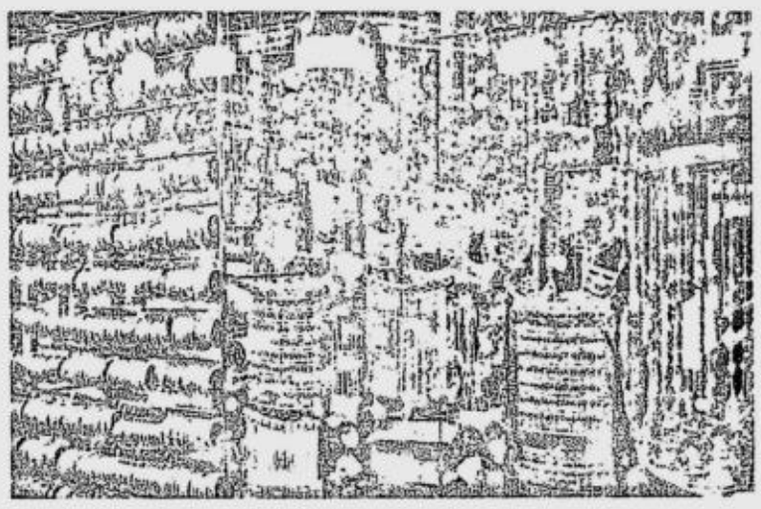
When completed in 2008, the World will have 300 sandy islands, each meant for exclusive ownership. Rocker Rod Stewart reportedly already owns one and so does former Formula One racing champion Michael Schumacher.

It is said the Palm Islands and the World will boost Dubai's coastline from the current "natural" 70 km to 1,500 km.

Even though one may not be rich enough to own a piece of the World, he/she can can still see it for free. One only has to go to the restaurant on the 28th floor of the Burj Al Arab, whose lobby is a visual overkill of gilded awnings and dancing fountains, to see the artificial islands taking shape.

In the restaurant, everyone gapes and cameras click incessantly. Yes, indeed, we are in Wonderland.

THE BURJ Al Arab



SHOP display, the Gold Souk

DISCOUNTED WEEKEND PACKAGES

Southeast Asian Airlines (Seair) and Escondido Beach Resort are offering discounted weekend packages to Boracay that includes round-trip airfare, three days two nights accommodation, and daily breakfast. The price is P7,800++ for single occupancy and P6,550++ for double occupancy. Promo is valid until Oct. 25. Seair (849-0100; www.flyseair.com) is also offering a special discounted one-way rate of P1,890++ for all flights to Boracay. Selling period is until Oct. 15. Tickets are valid until Nov. 15. Escondido Beach Resort is in Station 1.

TRAVEL BRIEFS

International tourism fair

TRAVEL EXECUTIVES FROM ALL over the world will attend the 1st Philippine International Tourism Fair (PITF) 2007 Sept. 5-7 in Cebu. The country's only international travel trade fair will be held in conjunction with the Department of Tourism's Philippine Travel Exchange (Phitex) 2007. Both events will be held at the new Cebu International Convention Center (CICC) in Mandaue City. The PITF 2007 is organized by the National Association of Independent Travel Agencies (NAITAS) and the Philippine Travel Mart Foundation (832-5422 and 832-9303; e-mail pitmcebu@gmail.com; www.philitf.com).

TOP TRAVEL AGENTS

Northwest Airlines presented recently recognition awards to its Top 30 Travel Agents in two events held in Tagaytay Highlands and Duo Steakhouse at The Fort. The "Northwest tail" glass trophies were presented by Northwest Airlines GM Todd Anderson and Northwest Airlines-ITI GM Gina Campos. Honored were Krizzia Benedicto, American Express Transnational Tours; Cheryl Anne Trivino, Travel Savers Philippines; Annette Feliciano, Universal Holidays Inc.; Rose Baradas, Marsman Tours and Travel; Jason Juco, Uni-Orient Travel; Raymond Tee, Horizon Travel and Tours; Abigail Fu, Pan Pacific Travel Corp.; Tessa de Guzman, Rajah Travel Corp; Baldwin Co, Satellite Travel Inc. and Mike Trias, Las Palmas Travel and Tours. In photo are the 2006 top 10 producers with the NWA team.

A passion to see the World

THE TRAVEL CLUB, THE Philippines' biggest travel outfitter unveils this season a new look that focuses on various types of trips and destinations.

The store's overall theme features graphic design and blocks of color representing leisure, adventure and business.

The Travel Club also focuses on well-known personalities who share a common passion to see the world.

These are model/actor Angel Aquino for Samsonite, extreme sports enthusiasts Ernie and Jeena Lopez for American Tourister, columnist Tessa Prieto-Valdes for Jansport, photographer Victor Consunji for World Traveller, swimmer Enchong Dee for Eagle Creek, motivational speaker and corporate consultant Francis Kong for Victorinox, and designer Randy Ortiz for Ace.

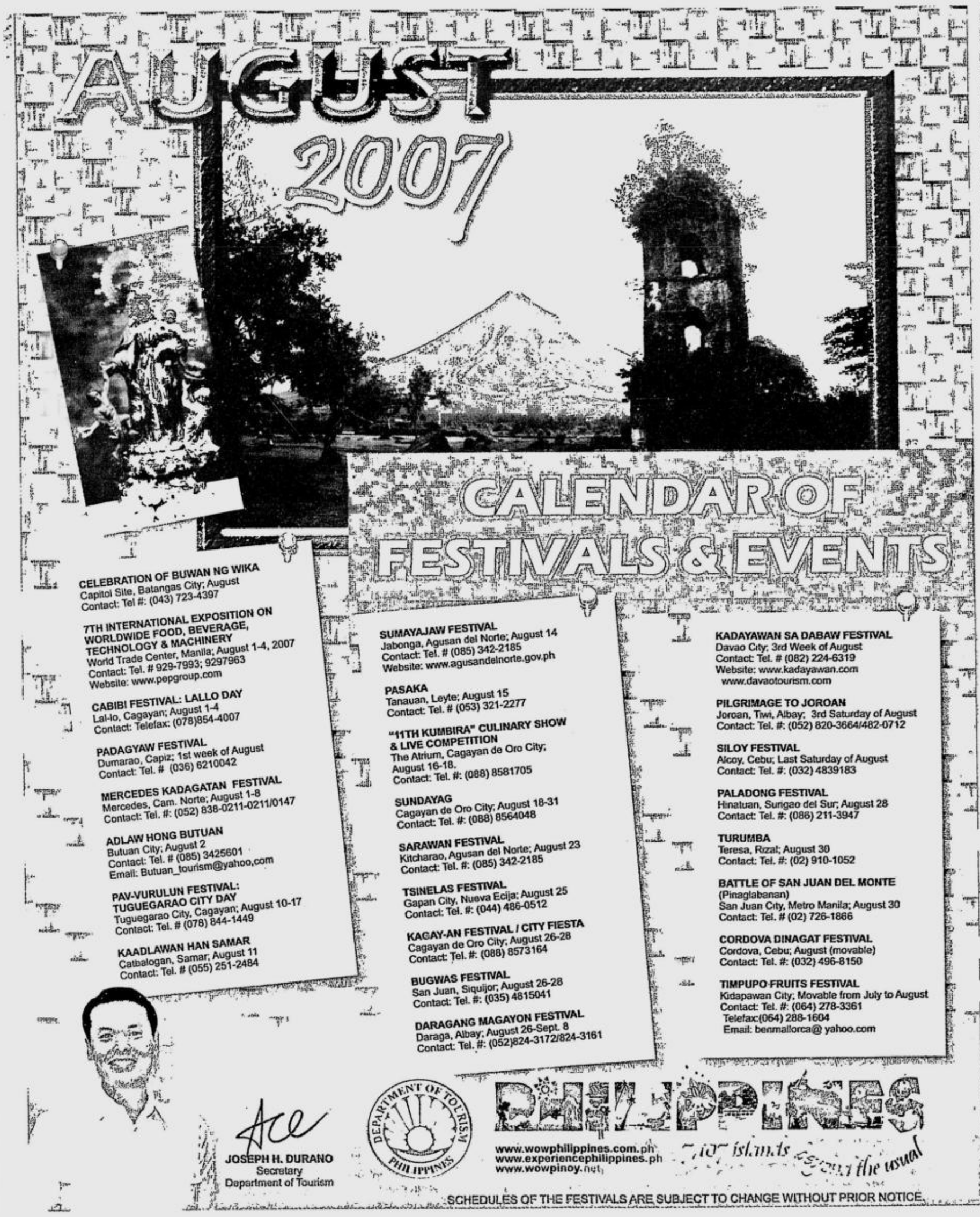
The group is a good mix of travel personas from the family-oriented, the budget-wise, the business-minded, the fashion devotee, to the adventure-ready.

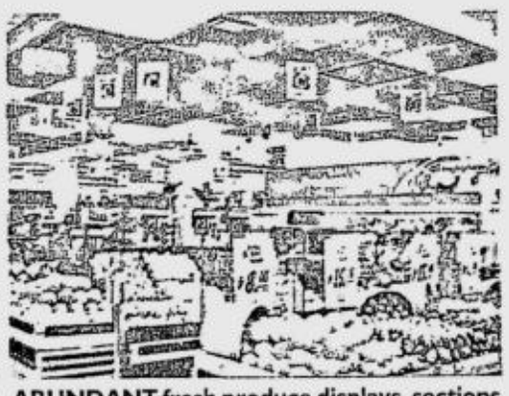
The Travel Club is in Glorietta 4, Alabang Town Center, Greenhills Shopping Center, Gateway Mall, SM Megamall, SM Mall of Asia, SM City North Edsa, SM Manila, SM, City Marilao, SM City Pampanga, SM City Clark, SM City Baguio, SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Cebu, SM City Iloilo, SM City Davao, SM City Cagayan De Oro, Festival Mall, Robinsons Place Bacolod.

AMBASSADOR OF STYLE
Life is one big adventure for Tessa Prieto-Valdes. The mother of four, wife, columnist, and interior designer, lists traveling as one of her passions. The image model for Jansport, Valdes is a self-confessed overpacker/shopaholic. Although she says she tries to buy quality pieces, she also buys things for their looks.

STYLE AND SUBSTANCE
Randy Ortiz, one of the most sought after designers in the country, loves to travel to draw inspiration for his designs. Ortiz, who says he has been using Ace since grade school, stresses the importance of good luggage when traveling.

TWO FOR THE ROAD
The lifestyle of Ernie and Jeena Lopez, image models for American Tourister, seems to be an exercise in living life to the hilt. Last year, they participated in The Amazing Race Asia. The couple's active way of life has brought them all over the world, chasing after new adventures and experiences.





ABUNDANT fresh produce displays, sections that offer health items, Asian food and regional delicacies are among the innovations that will be offered in Robinsons Galleria Supermarket.

Fresh new face for supermarket

CUSTOMERS ARE IN FOR A NEW SHOPPING experience when the results of the grand makeover of Robinsons Galleria Supermarket in Quezon City are unveiled.

Wider selections of fresh produce, sections devoted to health foods, more deli items and regional delicacies are just among the changes they will see.

The makeover of Robinsons Supermarket's flagship store features new layouts and offer shoppers more and new amenities and products.

General manager Jody Gadia says customers can already get a peek of the changes in the chain's 31 branches throughout the Philippines.

A good 13-percent of the Galleria supermarket's entire floor area will be devoted to fresh produce. It will also be placed up front where shoppers can readily see what is on offer.

The fresh produce section will be complemented by the Whole Health department for health-conscious shoppers and people with special needs, like diabetics and hypertensives.

Robinsons Galleria will also promote health and wellness by informing shoppers on the nutritional properties of various produce. For instance, a sign will tell shoppers that squash, when eaten regularly, helps promote good eyesight.

Gadia says to make it even more convenient for Robinsons customers, the supermarket will have have a bakery, drugstore, a deli and an extensive Ready to Eat section offering, among others, chicken rotisserie, *kakanin*, *galantina*, marinated *liempo* etc.

Robinsons Galleria will also have occasionally tea tasting, coffee and wine appreciation and other activities.

The store will also have different budget packs every week, an Asian section, and the Island Favorites highlighting delicacies from the regions.

After the Galleria makeover is complete, other branches will also be reorganized along similar lines.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Emmie G. Velarde

sms feedback: inquirer ent name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) and 283 (Smart) or email us at entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Website: www.inquirer.

DONNA Villa and Carlo Caparas at the launch of five new titles on Thursday. ROMY HOMILLADA

Alive and in color

By Pocholo Concepcion
Contributor

WORLD-class illustration by Hal Santiago

Are we ready for Pinoy 'manga'?

THE PHILIPPINE comics industry is alive and well.

It's common knowledge, especially among serious comic book collectors, that there are young local artists producing exciting works, mostly influenced by American comic books and graphic novels. And then there is *"Pinoy Manga"*—which is inspired by Japanese anime and manga (the Japanese word for comics). It reportedly has a cult following.

What has been considered moribund for the last 10 years is the classic, mass-market variety, the kind that earlier made Carlo J. Caparas the "King of Pinoy Komiks."

5 new titles

But on Thursday, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo joined Caparas and wife Donna Villa at the media launch of five new titles before a jam-packed crowd of *komiks* novelists, illustrators, dealers and suppliers at the Bulwagang Leandro Locsin of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA) in Intramuros, Manila.

The NCCA was instrumental in starting the ball rolling for the *komiks'* heralded return. The agency sponsored several activities that Caparas proposed, such as the Komiks Kongress and Komiks Karavan.

Traveling around the country and holding informal talks and workshops, Caparas sounded off the buzz on the importance of *komiks* as a popular entertainment and art form which deserves another lease on life.

Sterling Paper Products, maker of notebooks and now a conglomerate of diversified business interests, expressed interest in publishing the comic books.

The rest is now contemporary history being played out as Caparas leads a lineup of veteran and newbie writers and illustrators whose new works are set to hit the streets in September.

The five new titles are Tagalog Komiks, Gwapo Komiks, Super Funny Komiks, Pilipino Klasiks and OFW Super Stories.

Each title costs P10 per issue.

Of the five, Pilipino Klasiks has the most impressive artwork—the cover showing a reptile character, Kroko (Takas sa Zoo), whose illustrator, Hal Santiago, may be at par with

ALIVE/ F2

Wendy pitted against 'Marimar'

By Marinel R. Cruz

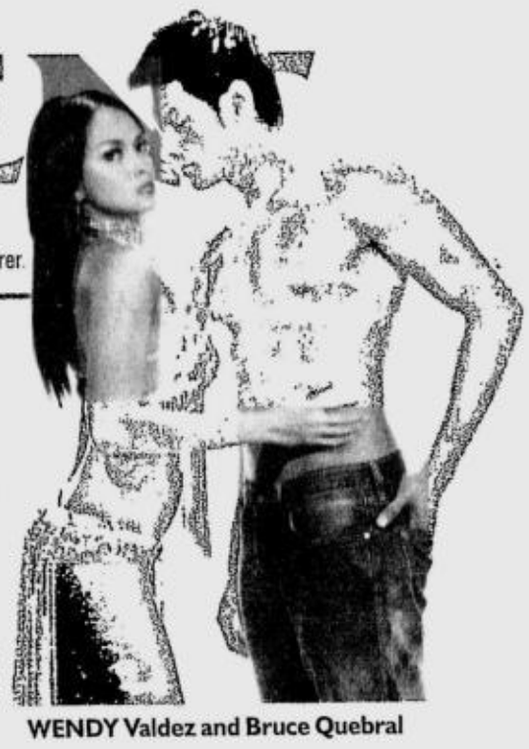
DEO ENDRINAL, ABS-CBN VICE PRESIDENT for entertainment, says the network decided to strike while the iron was hot, and made the controversial "Pinoy Big Brother" housemate Wendy Valdez the star of her own *teleserye*.

Wendy is Margarita in ABS-CBN's newest prime time show that premieres tomorrow at 6 p.m.

"Whether or not people like her, we cannot ignore the fact that Wendy is being talked about," Endrinal told entertainment writers in a gathering on Tuesday. "The show was conceived with her in mind."

Wendy incurred the ire of PBB viewers due to her tiffs with two female housemates, Ge-Ann Abraham and Bea

WENDY/ F2



WENDY Valdez and Bruce Quebral

POWER PLANT CINEMA
ROCKWELL CENTER, MAKATI TEL: 898-1440/41
DOLBY DIGITAL

HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX G 1:15,4:10,7:05,10:00	THE SIMPSONS MOVIE – PG 13 12:00,2:00,4:00, 6:00,8:00,10:00	THE SIMPSONS MOVIE – PG13 11:10,1:00,3:00, 5:00,7:00,9:00
RATATOUILLE – G 11:30,1:50, 4:20,6:50,9:20	BLIND DATING – PG13 1:30,3:40,5:50, 8:00,10:10	RATATOUILLE – G 12:20,2:50, 5:20,7:50,10:20

MOVIES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SHANG CINEPLEX
1 RATATOUILLE MTRCB GP 10:50, 1:30 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
2 THE SIMPSONS MTRCB PG-13 12:00 2:30, 5:00 7:30, 10:00
3 RATATOUILLE MTRCB GP 12:30, 3:10, 5:50, 8:30
4 THE SIMPSONS MTRCB, PG-13 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00
PREMIERE THEATRE RATATOUILLE (GP) 12:00, 2:40 HARRY POTTER 5 (GP) 5:30, 8:30
Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice
Catch the Cineplex Special
Come to Shangri-La Plaza's Season-Ender sale.
Enjoy discounts of up to 70% OFF
from participating stores up to July 31.
See you at the Shang!
6th floor, Shangri-La Plaza Mall
EDSA corner Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Call 633-7851, loc. 171/ 170 or 633-2227
for more details.
Shangri-La Plaza

MTRCB PG-13 Parental Guidance to Children Below 13 Years Of Age Must Be Accompanied By Parents Or Adult Guardians
NOW SHOWING
THE STAR OF "JUST MY LUCK" IS BACK IN ANOTHER HEART-WARMING ROMANTIC COMEDY
EDDIE KAYE THOMAS CHRIS PINE ANJALI JAY

BLIND DATING
date at your own risk.

WHO WILL BE THE NEXT POP STAR KID?
JALYNNA GIDGET TABITHA JESSICA MARION KIERULF SUZETTE DINO
Pop Star Kids Kay 2
GRAND FINALS NIGHT
TONIGHT • 7PM
Channel 11
Davao Ch 27 Skycable Ch 24 Destiny Ch 11 Sun Ch 19

Saguard hapee Vaseline Lady's Choice Tiki-Tiki Rebisco Paracetamol Calpol St. Augustine CENTER FOR POP SM MALL OF ASIA

"Gusto ko magaan ang presyo, pero mas bigatin ang offers."
Posible po! Mas lalong affordable na ang Globe Prepaid SIM P65 na lang!
dude, ang lakas mo sa Globe
Globe SIM Promo is from July 1 - 31, 2007
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2992, Series of 2007

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA

Ticket Price THX: P160 130 Indie Sine: 100 632-8118

1 HARRY POTTER 5 • THX
11:20 2:00 4:40 7:20 10:00

2 OUIJA
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

3 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

4 RATATOUILLE
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

5 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

6 Reserved for VICTORY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

7 BLIND DATING
1:10 3:20 5:30 7:40 9:50

8 indieSine: HANGGANG DITO NA LAMANG.
1:30 3:50 6:10 8:30

9 TRANSFORMERS
1:45MF 4:30 7:15 10:00

10 DIE HARD 4
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

Meet and Greet the cast

Asia Agcaoili • Paolo Paraiso • Michael Rivero

AUGUST 01

Robinsons Movieworld ERMITA
4th level Cinema Lobby
3:30PM

Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
4th level Cinema Lobby
5:30PM

ERMITA

Ticket Price: P110 / P120

1 OUIJA
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

2 DIE HARD 4
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

3 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
12:20 2:20 4:20 6:20 8:25 10:00

4 RATATOUILLE
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 10:00

5 BLIND DATING
12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 10:00

6 TRANSFORMERS
11:00MF 1:35 4:10 6:50 10:00

7 HARRY POTTER 5
11:00MF 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

METRO EAST

Ticket Price: P100 / P110 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 TRANSFORMERS
12:00MF 3:00 6:00 9:00

2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

3 RATATOUILLE
10:45 1:20 3:55 6:30 9:05

4 BLIND DATING
12:05 2:15 4:25 6:35 9:00

5 DIE HARD 4
12:45 3:30 6:15 9:00

6 VACANCY
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

7 HARRY POTTER 5
11:00 1:35 4:10 6:45 9:20

8 OUIJA
12:10 2:25 4:40 6:55 9:10

NOVALICHES

1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 RATATOUILLE
3 OUIJA
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 DIE HARD 4
6 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE

PIONEER

Ticket Price: P100 / P110 687-5378

1 OUIJA
1:10MF 3:35 6:00 8:25

2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
12:05MF 2:15 4:25 6:35 8:40

3 RATATOUILLE
1:15MF 3:45 6:15 8:40

4 BLIND DATING
12:05 2:15 4:25 6:35 8:40

STA. ROSA

Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (049) 837-0907

1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 CAPE KARMA
4 RATATOUILLE
5 OUIJA

LIPA

Ticket Price: P90 (043) 757-3684 (043) 312-5870

1 RATATTOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 CAPE KARMA
5 VACANCY

DASMARIÑAS

Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (046) 416-4332

1 CAPE KARMA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 OUIJA
4 HARRY POTTER 5
5 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE

IMUS

Ticket Price: P100 (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 WHITE NOISE 2
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 PLANET TERROR
4 RATATOUILLE
5 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
6 OUIJA

ANGELES

Ticket Price: P 90 / P95 (045) 892-2348

1 RATATOUILLE
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 OUIJA
4 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE

TARLAC

1 OUIJA
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 VACANCY

STARMILLS

Ticket Price: P80 / P90 (045) 875-1927

1 RATATOUILLE
2 DIE HARD 4
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 OUIJA
5 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
6 HARRY POTTER 5

BACOLOD

Ticket Price: P70 (034) 441-0459

1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 OUIJA
4 RATATOUILLE
5 RESERVE
6 PAN'S LABYRINTH

ILOILO

Ticket Price: P70.50 / P80.50 (033) 338-8070

1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 OUIJA
3 RATATOUILLE
4 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
5 ZODIAC
6 TRANSFORMERS

LICENSE TO WED
An Unforgettable Photo Exhibit
July 30 - August 07
Robinsons Movieworld Galleria Cinema Lobby

Submit a blow-up photo (min. size of 8"x11") of your most unforgettable wedding moment with a short description. Include contact details.

Deadline of submission of entries
July 29

Send entries to:
MARKETING DEPARTMENT - CINEMA
L4 Robinsons Movieworld Galleria
Ortigas Ave., Quezon City

Winners will get gift certificates at Holiday Inn and other exciting give aways!

SM CINEMA
SHARE A MOVIE WITH A LOVED ONE

movietime SHOWTIME
VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM
* Powered by WWW.YEHEY.COM
Your life as a movie
BIG MOVIES • BIG STARS • BIG SHOWS • BIG EVENTS

Don't miss the most anticipated movie event of the year!

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix

Experience the movie's explosive finale in IMAX 3D at SAN MIGUEL Coca-Cola IMAX THEATRE

Tickets now available.
P 350 (Monday to Thursday, before 5pm)
P 400 (Monday to Thursday, 5pm onwards, Friday, Saturday & Sunday, Holiday whole day)

Please call 556-IMAX (4629) or 556 0242 for inquiries and reservations.

NOW SHOWING

SCREENING TIME	JULY 29 SUNDAY
11:00 AM	OPEN
2:00 PM	OPEN
5:00 PM	OPEN
8:00 PM	OPEN
11:00 PM	OPEN

SCREENING TIME	JULY 30 MONDAY	JULY 31 TUESDAY
1:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN
4:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN
7:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN
10:00 PM	OPEN	OPEN

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

METRO MANILA

SM MALL OF ASIA 556-0104
1 THE SIMPSONS
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 RATATOUILLE
5 BLIND DATING/ DIE HARD 4
6 RESERVED

PREMIERE CINEMA
OUIJA

CENTERSTAGE
RESERVED

DIRECTOR'S CLUB
Bookings now accepted.
Inquire at 556-2314.

THE PODIUM

CINEMA 1
RATATOUILLE
CINEMA 2
THE SIMPSONS
633-8976
For ticket reservation, dial 6338976

SM NORTH EDSA 929-5452
1 THE SIMPSONS
2 RATATOUILLE
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 OUIJA
5 TRANSFORMERS
6 OUIJA
7 HARRY POTTER 5
8 RESERVED
9 DIE HARD 4
10 BLIND DATING
11 HARRY POTTER 5
12 OUIJA

SM MEGACINEMA 633-1901
1 OUIJA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 TRANSFORMERS
5 RESERVED
6 RATATOUILLE
7 VACANCY
8 OUIJA
9 THE SIMPSONS
10 OUIJA
11 DIE HARD 4
12 BLIND DATING

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 935-0749
1 BLIND DATING
2 OUIJA
3 WHITE NOISE
4 HARRY POTTER 5
5 DIE HARD 4
6 THE SIMPSONS
7 OUIJA
8 RATATOUILLE
9 TRANSFORMERS
10 VACANCY
11 PLANET TERROR
12 RESERVED

SM CITY STA. MESA 716-1416
1 RESERVED
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 OUIJA
4 RATATOUILLE
5 RESERVED
6 BLIND DATING
7 TRANSFORMERS
8 RESERVED
9 THE SIMPSONS
10 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY SAN LAZARO 786-2488
1 RATATOUILLE
2 TRANSFORMERS
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 THE SIMPSONS
5 BLIND DATING
6 OUIJA

SM SOUTHMALL 806-6888
1 THE SIMPSONS
2 OUIJA
3 OUIJA
4 RATATOUILLE
5 TRANSFORMERS
6 HARRY POTTER 5
7 BLIND DATING
8 DIE HARD 4
9 VACANCY

SM CITY BICUTAN 776-3055
1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 OUIJA
4 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY MANILA 523-9240
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 BLIND DATING
3 RATATOUILLE
4 DIE HARD 4
5 RESERVED
6 HARRY POTTER 5
7 IN THE LAND OF WOMEN
8 THE SIMPSONS
9 HARRY POTTER 5
10 OUIJA
11 TIYANAKS
12 VACANCY

SM CITY DASMARINAS (046)4323201-04
1 RESERVED
2 OUIJA
3 THE SIMPSONS
4 RATATOUILLE

SM VALENZUELA 293-3917
1 THE SIMPSONS
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 OUIJA
4 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY SUCAT 829-4975
1 RATATOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 THE SIMPSONS

SM movietime exclusive presents

KOOL PINOY KLASIKS
2ND ANNUAL CINEMA ONE CLASSICS FILM FESTIVAL

LVN CLASSICS
FPG CLASSICS
DOLPHY CLASSICS
JOEY GEOSIENGFIAO CLASSICS

AUGUST 1 - 5, 2007
SM MEGAMALL CINEMA 1

Log on to cinemaone.tv for festival Schedules

SM CITY BACOOR (046)417-3868
1 BLIND DATING
2 WHITE NOISE
3 THE SIMPSONS
4 RATATOUILLE
5 HARRY POTTER 5
6 OUIJA
7 TRANSFORMERS
8 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY CLARK (045)625-5844-45
1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 RATATOUILLE
5 OUIJA
6 DIE HARD 4/ OUIJA

SM CITY MARILAO (044)9332013-17
1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 OUIJA
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 RATATOUILLE

LUZON

SM CITY BATANGAS 885-6401-04
1 OUIJA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 ZODIAC

SM CITY PAMPANGA (045)9637681-85
1 OUIJA
2 OUIJA
3 HARRY POTTER 5
4 RATATOUILLE
5 THE SIMPSONS
6 OUIJA

SM CIY LIPA (043) 784-0187
1 RATATOUILLE
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 OUIJA
4 TRANSFORMERS

SM CITY LUCENA (042)7108977-80
1 OUIJA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 THE SIMPSONS
4 HARRY POTTER 5

SM CITY BAGUIO (074)6197838-39
1 OUIJA
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 RATATOUILLE
4 HARRY POTTER 5

SM SUPERCENTER MOLINO (046)474-3160
1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 OUIJA
3 VACANCY
4 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY STA. ROSA (049)5349811
1 THE SIMPSONS
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 RATATOUILLE
4 OUIJA

SM CITY DAVAO (082)2976998
1 HARRY POTTER 5
2 BORDERTOWN
3 OUIJA
4 DIE HARD 4
5 THE SIMPSONS
6 RATATOUILLE

SM CITY CAGAYAN (088)859-2884
1 RATATOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 THE SIMPSONS
4 HARRY POTTER 5

VISAYAS MINDANAO

SM CITY ILOILO (033)3209422
1 RATATOUILLE
2 ZODIAC
3 TRANSFORMERS
4 OUIJA
5 HARRY POTTER 5
6 THE SIMPSONS
7 RESERVED
8 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY CEBU (032)231-3876
1 TRANSFORMERS
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 RATATOUILLE
4 VACANCY
5 THE SIMPSONS
6 NEXT
7 OUIJA
8 DIE HARD 4

SM CITY BACOLOD (034) 708 1010
1 RATATOUILLE
2 HARRY POTTER 5
3 THE SIMPSONS
4 OUIJA

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

*FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

Alive and in color

From page F1

the world's renowned comic book artists.

OFW Super Stories banners a story written by Caparas, titled "Andres de Saya (Chairman ng mga Takusa)."

At the media launch, Caparas beamed in his trademark dark shades and baseball cap attire.

He vowed: "*Ako na po ang nagsasabalikat sa pagpasan ng isang matamlay ng industriya... Nangangako na itataas namin ang antas ng komiks, kaysa komiks noong araw...*"

Villa was overcome with joy: "I feel indebted to this industry because [as a movie producer] I've made a lot of hit movies based on *komiks* material [written by Carlo]. *Ito na siguro ang pinakamasayang araw sa buhay ni* Carlo...*talo pa ang kasalnamin dito... Pangarap ho talaga niyang ibalik ang komiks... Eto na, naibalik na, walang duda...*"

Wendy pitted...

From page F1

Saw.

Saw became the grand champion.

A model and former beauty queen, Wendy landed third place, behind Filipino-Swiss Mickey Perz. Abraham was declared fourth Big Winner.

Endrinal insisted that "Margarita" was not created to compete with GMA 7's new series, "Marimar," starring Marian Rivera.

"Margarita is a bittersweet drink—we patterned the character after it," said Endrinal. "It doesn't seem right to call [her] daiquiri, or tequila."

He confirmed that changes were made in the time slots of its "Primetime Bida" block to accommodate "Margarita," but he noted that "Marimar" was set to premiere in August, in a different time slot.

For Wendy, being controversial is actually a plus factor. "Viewers will be curious to know what I've got to offer... that I can really act," she said.

The 24-year-old belied reports that her rude behavior inside the House was intentional, in preparation for the TV series.

"To be honest, I really didn't know they were cooking up a show for me. I was actually shocked to hear about it," she said. "Whatever it was that transpired inside the Big Brother house happened because of different circumstances. *Tapos na po 'yun.*"

Playing opposite Wendy is real-life boyfriend and "PBB" housemate Bruce Quebral. Also in the cast are Elizabeth Oropesa, Diether Ocampo, Keana Reeves, Dick Israel, Rio Locsin, Joseph Bitangcol, John Manalo and Sharlene San Pedro.

MTRCB ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

OPENS AUGUST 1

TATANGGAPIN KAYA TAYO NG JAPAN KAPAG LUMUBOG ANG 'PINAS?

Disney promises no smoking in its movies

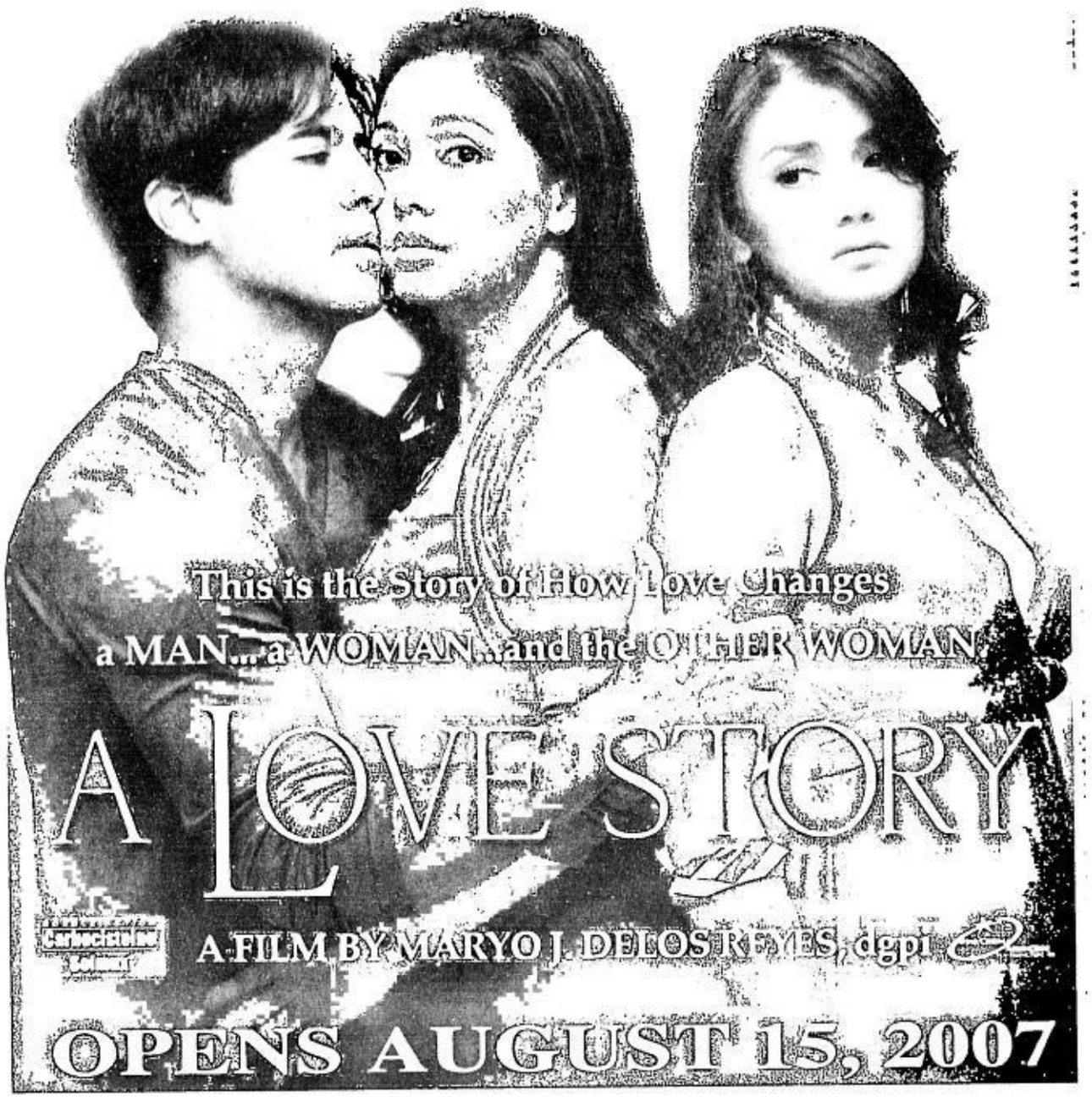
CHEER FACTOR

LOS ANGELES—DISNEY SAYS IT WILL BAN CIGARETTES IN ITS FAMILY FILMS AND discourage depictions of people smoking in other movies.

The Walt Disney Company made the unprecedented pledge in a letter to a US lawmaker, Representative Edward Markey, who recently held hearings on the impact of film images on children. *AFP*

A 14th ANNIVERSARY OFFERING FROM STAR CINEMA!

MARICEL SORIANO AGA MUHLACH
ANGELICA PANGANIBAN



AT THE CINEMAS

TFX

Reserve your tickets by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729-7777

GLORIETTA 1	1 TRANSFORMERS	2 THE SIMPSONS	3 RATATOUILLE	4 OUIJA
GLORIETTA 4	1 RATATOUILLE / DIE HARD 4.0	2 OUIJA	3 TFX THE SIMPSONS GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 BLIND DATING	5 THE SIMPSONS	6 RATATOUILLE	7 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX
GREENBELT 1	1 TRANSFORMERS	2 THE SIMPSONS		
GREENBELT 3	1 TFX RATATOUILLE GUARANTEED SEATS	2 TFX THE SIMPSONS GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX GUARANTEED SEATS	4 BLIND DATING / RATATOUILLE GUARANTEED SEATS	5 THE SIMPSONS GUARANTEED SEATS	
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 TFX RATATOUILLE	2 THE SIMPSONS		
	3 THE SIMPSONS	4 OUIJA	5 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX	
AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 THE SIMPSONS	2 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX	3 RATATOUILLE	4 OUIJA
MARKET! MARKET!	1 OUIJA	2 THE SIMPSONS		
	3 RATATOUILLE	4 BLIND DATING	5 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX	
TRINOMA • TFX • All-Digital Sound • All-Stadium Seating • Comfortable Viewing Space • Recliner Seats	1 OUIJA	2 BLIND DATING / TRANSFORMERS	3 HARRY POTTER & THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX GUARANTEED SEATS	4 RATATOUILLE / DIE HARD 4.0 GUARANTEED SEATS
	5 THE SIMPSONS	6 RATATOUILLE	7 TFX THE SIMPSONS GUARANTEED SEATS	

AT THE MALLS

Ayala Malls

CONCIERGE HOTLINE NUMBERS:
Glorietta - 752 7272
Greenbelt - 757 4853 to 54
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; 772 1860
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc. 324
Market! Market! - 886 7519
TriNoma - 901 3000

glorietta	Mechanical Imago July 27 to 29, 2007 at the Activity Center
GREENBELT	Shop & Travel at Greenbelt 1 Promo Get a chance to win exciting prizes and a trip for two to Boracay for every P300 worth of purchase at any Greenbelt 1 establishment from July 1 to September 30, 2007
ALABANG TOWN CENTER	Clear Mall Animation Activation July 28 & 29, 2007 at the Activity Center
AYALA CENTER CEBU	Ciba Vision Exhibit July 27 to 29, 2007 at Paseos
MARKET! MARKET!	Metro Fashion Week July 13 to 31, 2007 at participating Metro departments
Greenbelt Onstage	Repertory Philippines presents Disney's CINDERELLA Kids at REP's Globe Theater - Opens August 11, 2007 For inquiries, pls. call 887-0710
Ayala MUSEUM	KANDUNGAN - a solo exhibition of metal sculptures by Daniel dela Cruz July 24 to August 6, 2007 For more info, pls. call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 14 or email museum_inquiry@ayalamuseum.org
Tri Noma	Magic 89.9's Amped on the Ramp July 27, 2007 at the Activity Center Mechanical Imago August 3 to 5, 2007 at the Activity Center

WATCH the SIMPSONS MOVIE at the Glorietta 4 cinemas and get a chance to strike a pose with the Simpsons family

NOW SHOWING AT AYALA MALLS CINEMAS

For screening schedule, pls. call 729-7777
MTRCB Rating: General Audience (G)

IMAGO ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
MECHANICAL ACTION
A theatrical circus performance of man-powered machines and acrobatic acts.

Glorietta Activity Center, July 27-29, 11:30 am, 3 pm & 6 pm
TriNoma Activity Center, August 3-5, 11:30 am, 3 pm & 6 pm
Market! Market! Activity Center, August 10-12, 1 pm, 3:30 pm & 6 pm
Alabang Town Center Activity Center, August 17-19, 11 am, 3 pm & 6 pm
Ayala Center Cebu OnStage, August 24-26, 1 pm, 4 pm & 6:30 pm

glorietta GREENBELT ALABANG TOWN CENTER AYALA CENTER CEBU MARKET! MARKET! TriNoma

SIMULA LUNES
BAGONG
SHOWTIME NA!

MORNING 'TIL NIGHT
mas
nakaka-EXCITE!

SHOWTIME sa Bagong Primetime Bida

Mga taggong inaabangan, tiyak na pag-uusapan.

6:00 pm **Margarita**
Ang kontrobersyal na housemate, ipapakita na ang buhay ng isang showgirl.
Starring: Diether Ocampo, Bruce Quebral and Wendy Valdez

TV Patrol World
Ysabella
Kapamilya Deal Or No Deal
Walang Kapalit

SHOWTIME Sa ANImazing Morning

Gumising na sa mas magandang umaga!

8:30 am **Trapp Family Singers**

9:00 am **Princess Sarah**
Muling panoorin ang mga classic cartoons na kumurot sa inyong mga puso.

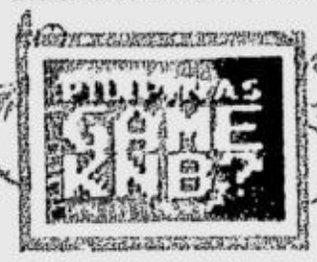
9:30 am **Yakitate Japan**
Muli tayong gugutumin sa katatawa ng Master Panadero!

10:00 am **Akazukin Cha Cha**
Sumama na sa adventure ng kikay na bida.

BIGTIME Showtime Tanghali

Ang Bigtime trio na kasalo mo sa tanghalian, mas pasasayahin ka!

10:30 am



11:30 am

12:30 pm

BAGONG Afternoon Showtime

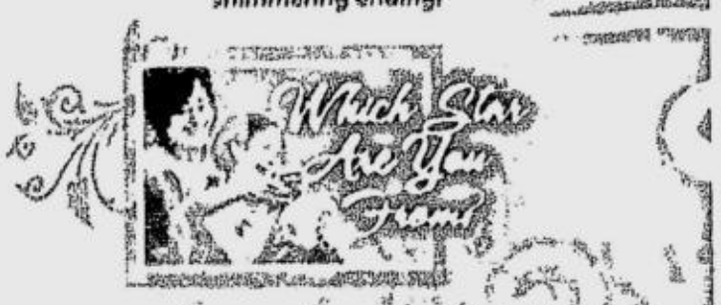
Dalawang programang bubuhay sa hapon mo.

3:00 pm **Inocente De Ti**
Tuluyan na bang magkakahiwalay sina *Julio Alberto* at *Florecita*?

4:00 pm **Pinoy Movie Hits presents SIGAW**
Starring: Angel Locsin at Richard Gutierrez

Sineserye Presents:
Natutulog Ba Ang Diyos?
Saksihan ang mas gumagandang kwento sa bago nitong oras!

Which Star Are You From?
Huwag kang bibitiw sa shining, shimmering ending!



Dito tayo happy sa ABS-CBN

Max's Parties & Functions Toyota AVANZA Treat!

GRAND PRIZE
One (1) Brand New Toyota Avanza

Max's RESTAURANT since 1945

In partnership with: BPI Express Credit, baby

Promo duration: June 1 to September 15, 2007.
See posters and flyers for more details.

Per DTI-NCR Permit no. 2014, series of 2007.

A chat with Catherine, part 2

And kudos to RP's Lav Diaz, who's competing in the 64th Venice Film Festival

CATHERINE Zeta-Jones: Sassy, an ace at bantering.

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—CONGRATULATIONS TO Filipino filmmaker **Lav Diaz**, whose "Death in the Land of Encantos" is competing in the avant-garde Horizons Documentaries category of the 64th Venice Film Festival.

Lav is in rather good company. Among the entries in this field are "Man from Plains" by **Jonathan Demme**, who won the 1992 Oscar Best Director Award for "The Silence of the Lambs" and "Berlin" by **Julian Schnabel**, who bagged the Best Director Award in the recent Cannes Film Festival for "Le Scaphandre et le Papillon."

***

"Come on, we all fantasize about a naked guy in a pinny (apron),"Catherine Zeta-Jones cajoled us.

Well, maybe not some guys. They probably fantasize, instead, about Catherine in… an Armani pinny. And we're sure those dudes are interested only in the intricate lacework.

Nude chefs; what it is about men, including her husband Michael Douglas, and their barbecues; and dinner table conversations with her father-in-law, Kirk Douglas, are some of the subjects that Catherine discussed in this second part of our report on a recent press con with her in New York.

The food theme of the interview was an offshoot of the story of her new film, "No Reservations," where she plays a workaholic Manhattan chef. Directed by Scott Hicks (the Oscar Best Picture nominee, "Shine"), the romantic drama is based on the European film, "Mostly Martha." Kate, Catherine's character, leads a life as efficient as the way she ties her crisp white apron (precisely) and wakes up at dawn (punctually) to buy the freshest fish in the market.

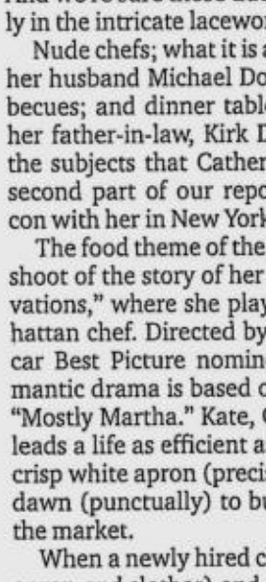
When a newly hired chef (Aaron Eckhart in apron *and* clothes) and a niece (Abigail Breslin) arrive, however, Kate's neat, if lonely, universe is thrown into chaos.

The night before our interview, we trooped to the French Culinary Institute on Broadway where the staff, led by chef Lee Anne Wong, let us into the kitchen and revealed some of their cooking secrets. Lee Anne taught Catherine and Aaron how to slice, dice and chop ingredients and other stuff so they will really look like cooks at the top of their game.

Sassy, playful and an ace at bantering, the Wales-born Catherine is never a boring interview subject.

Do you find men who cook attractive?

There is something very sexy about a man in an apron. Clothes on or off, I must say. Come on, we all fantasize about a naked guy in a pinny (apron). All you see are his little tushies (buttocks) as he leans over the stove. I just think food (laughter). I think of dates, including a first date, who asked, "Would you like to come for dinner?" It's such a sensual thing. Where do these men learn to cook?

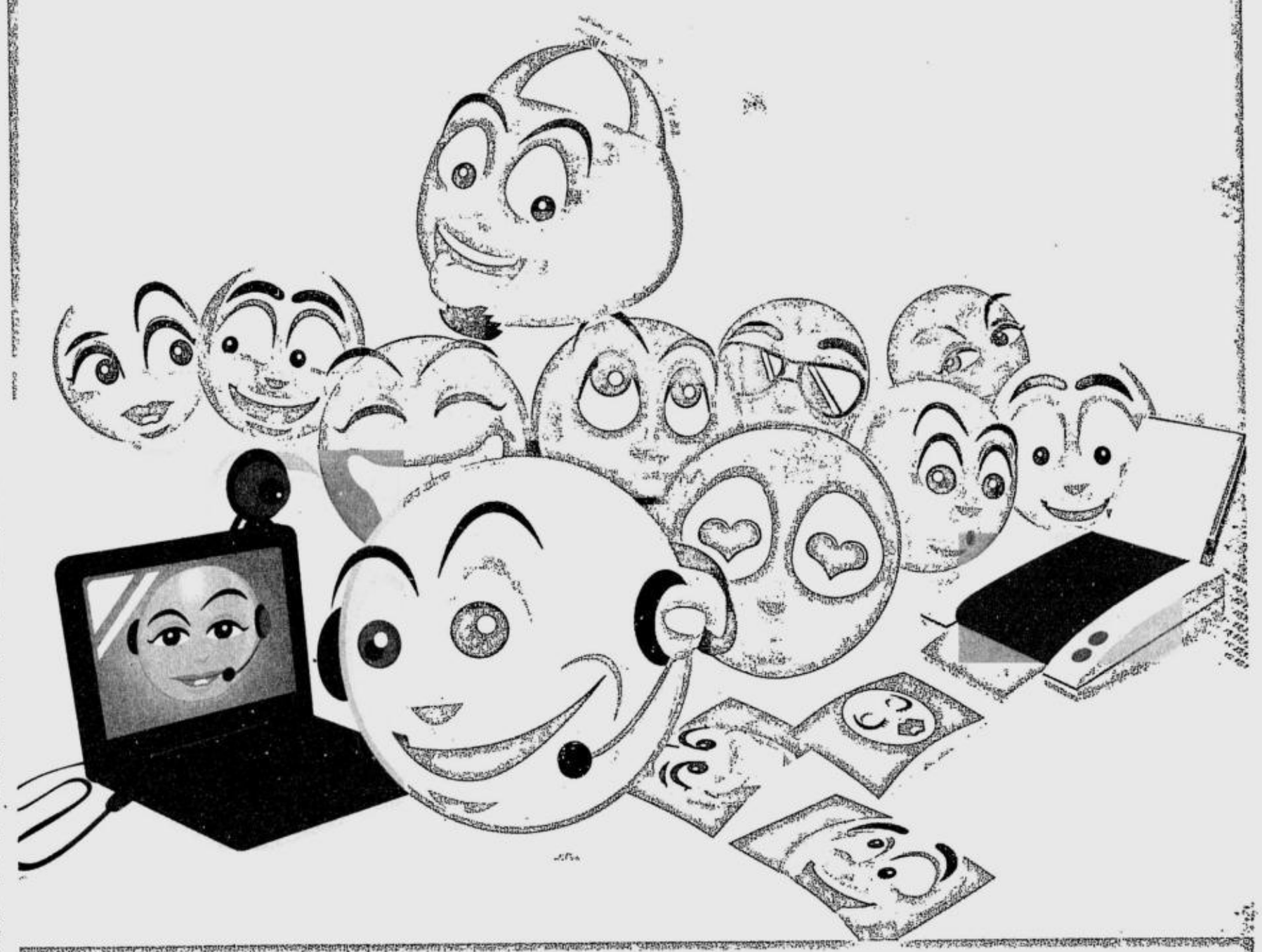


LAV DIAZ

What else does Michael cook aside from the pancakes that you told us pre-

CATHERINE/ G2

Want the hottest tech gadgets for free?



FREE with every Globe Broadband Budget Bundles subscription

384 kbps P995/month	1 month free OR 1 I-Tech Webcam + I-Tech or Intex Headset	5 electronic raffle tickets
1 Mbps P1495/month	1 month free OR 1 Lexmark Z517 Printer	10 electronic raffle tickets
2 Mbps P1995/month	1 month free OR 1 I-Tech Webcam + I-Tech or Intex Headset + 1 Lexmark Z517 Printer	15 electronic raffle tickets

Promo period is from July 5 to August 31, 2007.
Raffle draw is on September 14, 2007.
See flyers for details.

For as low as P995/month, Globe Gentxt members can subscribe to Globe Broadband Budget Bundles, get fast broadband connection, free gadgets and a chance to win a brand new laptop.

• Kaya sa'n pa ang Gentxters? Mag-Buhay Broadband na!

Go to the nearest Globelines Payments & Services center or call (02) 919-8888 for inquiries.

Globe BROADBAND
Enriching real lives in real time.

Call (02) 919-8888 for Luzon, (032) 410-8888 for Visayas and Mindanao toll-free from any Globelines landline, payphone, Globe Handyphone or Touch Mobile, or visit your nearest Globelines Payments & Services center or www.globelines.com.ph. Standard NDD rates may apply to calls made from other carriers.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3112, Series of 2007.

Bad, bad Britney ... and Asia's fantasies

THE MANAGER OF THIS MATINée idol has been driving people up the wall with his ranting against girls romantically linked with his ward. Lighten up!

***

Can you believe that this model-actress doesn't know her cager-boyfriend is deep into a gay relationship? We are told the gay lover came before Ms Clueless. *Tsk, tsk.*

Too late, sorry

This award-winning young actor declined the offer of a small movie company to star in an action flick. His management company said he worked only with mainstream production outfits.

When the small movie was accepted as an entry to a major film festival, the finicky actor's staff called the small company posthaste. Alas, it was too late.

Shrieks and sighs

This female TV personality's nocturnal habits are being whispered about by neighbors in the condo building where she lives.

Apparently, with her shrieks and sighs, she keeps wide awake at night not only her partner in pleasure, but the entire populace on her floor as well.

The same celeb supposedly sent an assistant to buy X-rated DVDs featuring gay men. "For research," she explained to a friend. Naughty, naughty.

***

Top of the tabloids

The top show biz stories in local tabloids this week (and why we are moved, if we are moved):

•**Nadine Samonte** *ayaw sa trono ni* **Angel Locsin.**

•*Bagong serye, sagana sa laplapang* Dennis-Nadine.

•Nadine, *natakot sa lambing ni* **Dennis Trillo.**

•Nadine, *bumigay na kay* Dennis. (*'Katakot nga.*)

•**Jolina,** *laos na kaya bawal sa* Dos.

•"Ouija," *nalampasan ang* first-day gross *ng* "Feng Shui." (Box-office supremacy is the best revenge.)

•"Ouija" mas maganda sa "Sukob." (*May galit ba kayo kay* Kris?)

NADINE SAMONTE

AGA MUHLACH

That girl Wendy

•**Wendy Valdez,** *palaban.*

•Wendy Valdez, *hubad.*

•Wendy not affected by negative publicity. (Sure she is; hear her laugh all the way to her first soap.)

•Wendy *bida agad sa* soap opera *ng* Dos. (*Kitam?*)

•Wendy, **Bruce** *bida sa bagong teleserye ng* Dos. (*Sino na nga 'yung nanalo sa* PBB?)

•Wendy, *tinarayan ni* **Elizabeth Oropesa:** "*Mas* sexy *ako sa kanya.*"

That Angel Locsin

•Angel Locsin, *umalis sa* Siyete—*mas malaki kasi ang* talent fee *ni* **Richard Gutierrez.**

•Angel, *kasama ang* BF (**Lucio Tan's** son **Joel**) *sa* London.

•Angel, *kaliwa't kanang birada.*

•*Paglipat sa* Dos *ni* Angel, *ikinalungkot ni* Dennis Trillo.

•Angel, *nakikitira lang sa isang* dorm *sa* London.

•Angel, *iyak nang iyak habang pinipirmahan ang kontrata sa* ABS-CBN. (Tears of joy?)

•*Paglipat ni* Angel *sa* Dos, *hindi* big deal *sa* Siyete. (Meaning, we're not going to hear any more about this? Promise?)

•Angel, *ingrata? Ipokrita?* (Gee, we don't know. What is obvious, is she's PR savvy.)

ASIA AGCAOILI

For those who care

•**Gretchen Barretto,** *ala-***Paris Hilton,** *ayon sa anak na si* **Dominique.**

•**Osang, Lani, Bong,** friends *na uli.* (Those who care, show of hands, please.)

•**Ruffa,** *pinabulaanang nakipaghalikan sa isang* guy *sa* HK. (Another show of hands, please.)

•Ruffa, *protektado ng* Amerika; *ano'ng say mo,* **Yilmaz Bektas?** (And another ...)

Erotic Asia

•**Asia Agcaoili,** *dine*-virginize *si* **Paolo Paraiso.** (Come on.)

•**Carmi Martin** *at* **Anne Curtiss,** type _____ *ni* Asia.

•**Rustom,** type *tikman ni* Asia. (What's with this woman?)

•"Bedtime Stories with Asia" ... is now available on DVD. (*Ah.*)

•**Maui Taylor** has not forgotten **DJ Mo.**

•Maui *hindi pa raw handang patawarin si* Mo.

•Maui *at* DJ Mo, *may* sexy video *bago nagkagalit.*

•Maui, *patay na patay kay* **Mark Bautista.** (*Ganu'n lang?*)

•**Regine-Ogie** movie pushing through.

•**Ara Mina** *natikman ni* **Pacquiao.** (It's not what you think.)

•**Cristine Reyes** *palaban sa laplapan.*

•Ara Mina *tatalbugan ni* Cristine *sa kaseksihan.*

•Ara, *bibili ng bagong mansyon.* (*Kaya mo 'yon,* sis?).

Kids in love

•**JC de Vera,** *bininyagan si* **Yasmien Kurdi.**

•HK honeymoon *nina* Yasmien *at* JC; *kakakilig.*

•Yasmien, *pampalipas oras lang kay* JC? (So soon?)

•**Iza Calzado,** Hollywood star *na.*

•**Martin Nievera,** professional liar?

•**Pops** to Martin: "Grow up."

•**Jomari,** *ayaw makisawsaw sa bangayang* Pops-Martin. (*Dahil 'di siya maririnig.*)

•**Piolo,** *naakit sa* perfume *ni* **Gerald Anderson.** (*Teka lang....*)

•**Joey Marquez,** *walang* love life, *pero aktibo ang* sex life.

•Kapuso stars barred from joining Kapamilya reality show?

•Big star *ng* Dos, *lilipat sa* Siyete. (*Abangan.*)

Et tu, Aga?

•**Aga Muhlach,** *balik*-comedy.

•*Bakit kailangang magkahiwa-hiwalay ang mga artista?*—Aga

•Aga calls for TV war moratorium. (*'Di yata* comedy *'yan.*)

•Aga, *handang basbasan ang pag-aartista ni* **Igi Boy.**

•**Precious Lara Quigaman,** *handang ma*-link *kay* Aga.

•Aga at **Angelica Panganiban,** *todo-bigay sa* love scenes. (*Ang layo-layo na nito sa* comedy *a?*)

•**Janice,** *dedma sa patama ni* Aga. (*Naku, lalo na ito.*)

•Aga, no comment *sa hiwalayang* **Amalia** *at* **Joey Stevens.** (Drama? Action?)

Bad, bad Britney

NEW YORK—**Britney Spears** sat back and watched as her Yorkshire terrier puppy defecated on a $6,700 designer gown at a photo shoot for OK! magazine.

"I [heard] the upset shrieks of the stylist," editor-in-chief **Sarah Ivens** told The Associated Press in a phone interview Wednesday. "They had to be asked to clear it up."

Spears also wiped grease on a designer dress, treating it like "a napkin," took frequent trips to the bathroom—leaving the door open—and complained that the high-end clothing put together for the July 19 fashion shoot were not sexy, short or tight enough, the magazine said.

After about three hours, the 25-year-old singer bolted, walking away with more than $14,000 of borrowed apparel, Ivens said, adding, "It's definitely the most bizarre shoot I've ever been on." *AP*

It's a boy!

LOS ANGELES—**Naomi Watts** has given birth to a baby boy.

MATT DAMON AFP

BRITNEY SPEARS REUTERS

Alexander Pete Schreiber was born Wednesday afternoon in Los Angeles and weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces, Watts' publicist **Robin Baum** said Thursday.

It is the first child for the Australian actress and her boyfriend, actor **Liev Schreiber.** *AP*

Falling, face first

NEW YORK—**Beyonce Knowles** made a dramatic misstep when she fell face-first down a flight of stairs during a concert Tuesday in Orlando, Florida. Ever the stage professional, she got right up and continued her performance as if nothing had happened.

Amateur videos of the tumble had nearly 900,000 hits on the YouTube.com web site Thursday morning. *AP*

A star for Damon

LOS ANGELES—When **Matt Damon** and pal **Ben Affleck** were struggling actors, they lived in a modest apartment near Hollywood Boulevard.

Damon said he used to look at the stars on the boulevard sidewalk and dreamed of seeing his name on one of them someday. So when it came time to receive one Wednesday, Damon reacted with disbelief.

"A few times in my life I've had these experiences that are just kind of too big to process and this looks like it's going to be one of those times," Damon said during the Hollywood Walk of Fame ceremony. *AP*

"OSS 117 is BETTER THAN 007."
~French Ambassador Gerard Chesnel

"One of the MOST ENTERTAINING FILM of the year. The premiere night crowd was beyond appreciative, LAUGHING SO HARD at one joke, they very nearly missed the next."
~Kim Voynar, cinematical.com

"It's damned FUNNY. The laughs go from smirks to soda spittters. Joy has been in short supply at the movies lately, and OSS 117 was a SHEER DELIGHT."
~David Poland, MCN Reviews

A chat with Catherine Zeta-Jones

From page G1

viously?

Michael is also mean on the barbecue. But what is it with men and their barbecues? He's like, "Don't touch the barbecue. Everything's under control." Or "It's done. Don't touch the barbecue." I just have a little look and Michael goes, "Don't touch the barbecue." I can't even pick up the lid. He doesn't do anything else in the kitchen but make pancakes. So what's up with the barbie?

We were in Aspen once and he was doing his barbie. He said, "I'm going to go around on my motorcycle for a second. Don't lift the lid. Just keep an eye on the barbie." I went, "Oh, that's nice. I'm allowed to look at the barbie." But it was summertime and there are big bears up there. So I said, "Okay, I'll look after the barbie." So I opened a window in the kitchen and the barbie was there. I thought, if he thinks I'm going out there on my own, with the scent of the barbecue going up the mountains and with the bears sniffing it, he's got another thing coming. So I just opened the window every now and then, looked at the barbie from afar and went, "It looks okay (laughter)."

What is dinner conversation with your father-in-law (Kirk Douglas) like? He's a scholar in Judaism. Any discussion on that topic?

Dinner conversations with my father-in-law, as you can imagine, are just spectacular. I could sit there for hours and listen to all the stories. They're not just about his career. He's so inspirational in so many ways. He said to Michael and me, "Those children are just fantastic. They're polite. I'm so proud to be their grandfather. But let me give you some advice. Don't forget the kids grow up and flutter away. The most important person in your life is your spouse."

You look at Anne and Kirk these days. They're more in love than they've ever been in their lives. They got remarried and retook their vows. Kurt wrote a song for Anne. I can't even think about it because I'll start to cry.

As for Judaism, I went to a wedding once with Michael. I just met Michael and we were dating then. I know nothing at all about the Jewish faith at that point. They're passing around what looks to me like little eye masks, folded in half. They come up to us and Michael takes one. I said, "Michael, don't take that." He said, "Why?" I answered, "It's a wedding. Don't do that." He asked, "What?" I told him, "Don't take the eye mask." I thought they were eye masks that everyone puts on and then go (demonstrated taking off the eye mask), "Surprise!" It was a yarmulke (a Jewish head covering traditionally restricted to males).

What do you do for recreation in the evening in Bermuda where you live?

(With a naughty look) It's none of your business (laughter). Goodness me, it's getting ever so personal.

That comes later. What about before that—concerts or theater?

Bermuda is not the cultural center of the world by any stretch of the imagination. But we have the huge jazz festival. I had Gladys Knight and Dionne Warwick at my house. We have a film festival. We had (director) Jim Sheridan staying with us one time for the festival. We only have two movie theaters. We had "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" for about 19 months. So it was pretty tricky to see anything else.

We go into our movie library and just watch a movie at home. After the children are bathed, in bed and asleep, then we have our dinner. We go outside, sit on the terrace to just relax. We read. We watch too much CNN and sports. That's what we do. People say to us, "You must be great movie buffs." We're not. We're big on the news. And sports because you never know what the ending is going to be.

But there's lot to do in Bermuda. They have fantastic restaurants here.

Do you help Michael in his work as a UN ambassador of peace?

He's still very passionate about it. I do a lot with him for the UN and UNICEF. He's a staunch Democrat so you can imagine what he's thinking at this particular moment in time. When you're in the public eye, it allows you to voice out on certain issues on a much broader scale.

What are your own causes?

I've opened the first designated children's hospital in Wales, in Cardiff. Cardiff was the only city in Europe that didn't have a designated children's hospital. I've been working on that for over six years. I just opened it several months ago. I'm the patron of the NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) in Wales. The list goes and on. We do a lot of things anonymously.

You will be celebrating your seventh wedding anniversary in November. What are your thoughts on the Seven-Year Itch?

I'm looking forward to the next seven years. I am hoping to get a special anniversary gift this year in case Michael thinks I may be itching somewhere (laughter).

E-mail the columnist at rvnepales_5585@yahoo.com and read his blog, "The Nepales Report," on www.inquirerbloggers.net/nepalesreport.

CATHERINE plays an aunt of Abigail Breslin in "No Reservations."

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

For inquiries, call: 687-6963

GUARANTEED SEATS

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1	RATATOUILLE 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 G	
2	THE SIMPSONS 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 11:20 PG-13	
3	RATATOUILLE 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50 G	
4	HARRY POTTER 12:10, 3:00, 6:00 G	THE SIMPSONS 8:50 PG-13

GREENHILLS CINEMAS

GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS — a landmark reinvented!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1: QUIJA 10:30, 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10 PG - 13

CINEMA 2: BLIND DATING 11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:20, 10:35 PG-13

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PROMENADE GREENHILLS — ...a dinetertainment for all!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 3: RATATOUILLE 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 GP

CINEMA 4: HARRY POTTER 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00 GP

CINEMA 5: THE SIMPSONS 10:35, 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50 GP

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM	July 27, 2007	Willie Nep * Feelin Las Vegas * The Repeal	8:30 PM
	August 03 & 04, 2007	Joey Albert	8:30 PM
	August 24 & 25, 2007	Ogie Alcasid & Regine Velasquez	8:00 PM
TEATRINO PROMENADE GREENHILLS	July 13, 20, 27, 2007	Drag - Ons	10:00 PM
	August 6-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30	Cerrudo Classico	8:00 PM

FOR INQUIRIES PLS. CALL 722-4532 LOC 116

THE MAGIC CONTINUES ON ITS 3RD WEEK!

MTRCB RATING ▸ GENERAL AUDIENCE ▸ ALL AGES ADMITTED.

₱173.6 MILLION NATIONWIDE IN JUST 12 SPELLBINDING DAYS!

"Edge-of-your-seat entertainment." NEW YORK METRO

"A spectacular, magical masterpiece." Clay Smith, THE INSIDER

"A perfect blend of wizardry and hard-hitting emotion." Kristin Hornel, THE DAILY BUZZ

"An enthralling, splashy display of wand-on-wand action." MIRAL HOCHBERG / AM NEW YORK

"Daniel Radcliffe's performance is sensational." Peter Travers, ROLLINGSTONE

OPENS AUG. 1

MTRCB PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

First came love... then came Reverend Frank.

ROBIN WILLIAMS MANDY MOORE JOHN KRASINSKI

LICENSE to WED

WARNER BROS. PICTURES presents

www.licensetowedmovie.co.uk

OPENS AUGUST 8

ONE KICKS HARD... THE OTHER TALKS FAST

PERFECT COMBINATION

FROM BRETT RATNER THE DIRECTOR OF "X-MEN 3: THE LAST STAND"

JACKIE CHAN CHRIS TUCKER

RUSH HOUR 3

Araneta Center

aranetacenter.net

Gateway | NiMALL | FarmersPlaza | Farmers Market

MANDARIN ORIENTAL CAFE & DELI

SUNDAY BUFFET LUNCH

AN ARRAY OF SALADS, APPETIZERS, RIB EYE STEAK AND DESSERTS FOR ONLY P780++

SUNDAY LUNCH HAS NEVER BEEN BETTER

UPPER GROUND FLOOR, GATEWAY MALL

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL 913-5505

Gateway CINEPLEX*10

FULL STADIUM SEATING

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

THE SIMPSONS 12:20 / 1:10 / 2:30 / 3:20 / 4:40 / 5:30 / 6:50 / 7:40 / 9:00 / 9:50	BLIND DATING 12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30	RATATOUILLE 11:30 / 1:35 / 2:10 / 4:15 / 4:50 / 6:55 / 7:30 / 9:35	PLATINUM CINEMA
	OUIJA BOARD 1:10 / 3:20 / 5:30 / 7:40 / 9:50		
HARRY POTTER 5 12:50 / 3:50 / 6:50 / 9:50	TRANSFORMERS 12:50 / 3:50 / 6:50 / 9:50	DIE HARD 4 1:20 / 4:10 / 7:00 / 9:50	THE SIMPSONS 11:40 / 1:50 / 4:00 RATATOUILLE 6:20 / 9:00

NiMALL 5

1	OUIJA BOARD 12:00 / 2:10 / 4:20 / 6:30 / 8:40	2	THE SIMPSONS 11:45 / 2:00 / 4:15 / 6:30 / 8:45	3	RATATOUILLE 12:15 / 2:55 / 5:35 / 8:15
4	PLANET TERROR 12:20 / 2:20 / 4:20 / 6:20 / 8:20	5	HARRY POTTER 5 12:40 / 3:20 / 6:00 / 8:40		DOLBY DIGITAL, dts, SDDS

ARANETA COLISEUM www.aranetacoliseum.com

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK

LIVE! AUGUST 19 SUN / 7PM • BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

For reservations, call 911-5555 or log on to ticketnet.com.ph & aranetacenter.net

Tired of going from building to building to distribute your resumés? We can help you. JOB Market

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

SM SANG CINEPLEX

1 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
2 (DOLBY) THE SIMPSONS
3 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
4 (DOLBY) THE SIMPSONS 4.04.04.0

PREMIERE

(DOLBY) HARRY POTTER - 5

Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati

Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor. Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

1 RATATOUILLE
2 THE SIMPSONS
3 OUIJA
4 HARRY POTTER - 5

stormall

(Mandaluyong) tel. 7266160

3 RATATOUILLE
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) OUIJA
5 RESERVED

metropolis star cinema

www.clickthecity.com.ph

(ALABANG) tel. 8504285, 6433954

1 RATATOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 HARRY POTTER - 5
4 PLANET TERROR

THEATRES

NL Pacific Mall Cabanatuan, Telephone No. (044) 600-3325

1 HARRY POTTER - 5
2 VACANCY
3 OUIJA

PACIFIC MALL LUCENA CINEMAGIC

Pacific Mall Lucena Tel. (042) 660-6271

1 OUIJA
2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA

(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

1 (DDS) HARRY POTTER - 5
2 (DDS) RATATOUILLE
3 (DTS) THE SIMPSONS
4 GOLD (DTS) HARRY POTTER - 5
5 GOLD (DOLBY) DIE HARD 4.0
6 GOLD (DDS) TRANSFORMERS
7 GOLD (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
8 (DDS) OUIJA
9 (DDS) VACANCY
10 (DDS) BLIND DATING

Blue Wave

Sumulong Highway cor. Mayor Gil Fernando Street, Sto. Niño, Marikina City tel. 9341927

1 (DOLBY) OUIJA
2 (DOLBY) THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
4 (DOLBY) HARRY POTTER - 5

SUPER CINERAMA

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto tel 7334228

1 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
2 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 OUIJA
4 BLIND DATING
5 HARRY POTTER - 5

MARKETPLACE

Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1 OUIJA
2 HARRY POTTER - 5
3 VACANCY
4 TRANSFORMERS

Masagana CINEMA 200

(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

1 OUIJA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 HARRY POTTER - 5

Center Mall Cinema

Bagulo Center Mall, Magsaysay Avenue (Baguio City) tel (074)- (4449346)

1 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
2 RATATOUILLE

Jade Cinema

(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5003 to 03

1 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 (DTS) THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
4 HARRY POTTER - 5

Centre Plaza Cinema

(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 TRANSFORMERS

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City) tel 687.6963 or 72

1 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
2 (DOLBY) THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
3 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
4 (DOLBY) HARRY POTTER - 5

CINEMA 2000

Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1 THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
2 (DTS) OUIJA
3 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
4

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall

(Biñan) tel. (049) 4111146

1 RESERVED
2 (DOLBY) RESERVED
3 (DTS) RESERVED
4 RESERVED

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix

(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1 VACANCY
2 OUIJA
3 (DOLBY) HARRY POTTER - 5

Cinema 2000 Metrotown

(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1 VACANCY
2 OUIJA
3 (DOLBY) TRANSFORMERS
4 (DTS) HARRY POTTER - 5

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Plaridel) tel (044) 796.3320

1 HARRY POTTER - 5
2 OUIJA
3 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Gapan) tel. (044) 4867736

1 HARRY POTTER - 5
2 OUIJA

Lianas Cinema

(Pasig) tel 640.4748

1 DIE HARD 4.0
2 28 WEEKS LATER

Lianas Cinema

(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (DDS) HARRY POTTER - 5
2 KRISANTA
3 PLANET TERROR
4 (DTS) DIE HARD 4.0

Lianas MovieCity

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY) RATATOUILLE
2 OUIJA
3 (DTS) THE SIMPSONS MOVIE
4 MATAMIS HANGANG DULO
5 HARRY POTTER - 5

Fiesta World Mall

(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1 CAPE KARMA
2 RATATOUILLE
3 VACANCY
4 OUIJA

Berma Cinema

(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1 KARELASYON
2 KAKAIBANG KARISMA

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13-yrs. old will be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

CERTIFIED BOX OFFICE HIT!

"Ouija is a no-nonsense horror flick...The director is terrific, and the acting of the stars are all commendable."
- Bong De Leon (People's Journal)

"The film stands out with Topel Lee's almost flawless visual design and implausible cinematography"
- Ruel Mendoza (Pang-Masa)

"Manhid na lang ang hindi mapapatili."
- Dindo Balares (Balita)

OUIJA

Directed by: TOPEL LEE

Text OUIJA ON to 4627

GMA FILMS VIVA

GRADED "A"
BY THE CINEMA EVALUATION BOARD

SHOW TIME

Free tickets to Humperdinck show

ENGELBERT Humperdinck is embarking on a world tour to celebrate four decades in the music business.

His first Asian stop is the Araneta Coliseum, on Aug. 19. The show is titled "Engelbert Humperdinck's 40th Anniversary Concert."

Complimentary patron tickets are being given away to lucky shoppers at the Araneta Center.

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK

Every P500 single receipt purchase from any participating store can be exchanged for a raffle coupon, for a chance to win in the weekly draws. Two winners of two patron tickets each are being drawn every week until Aug. 12.

Tickets are priced from P473 to P5,250. Call 911-5555.

Farewell tour

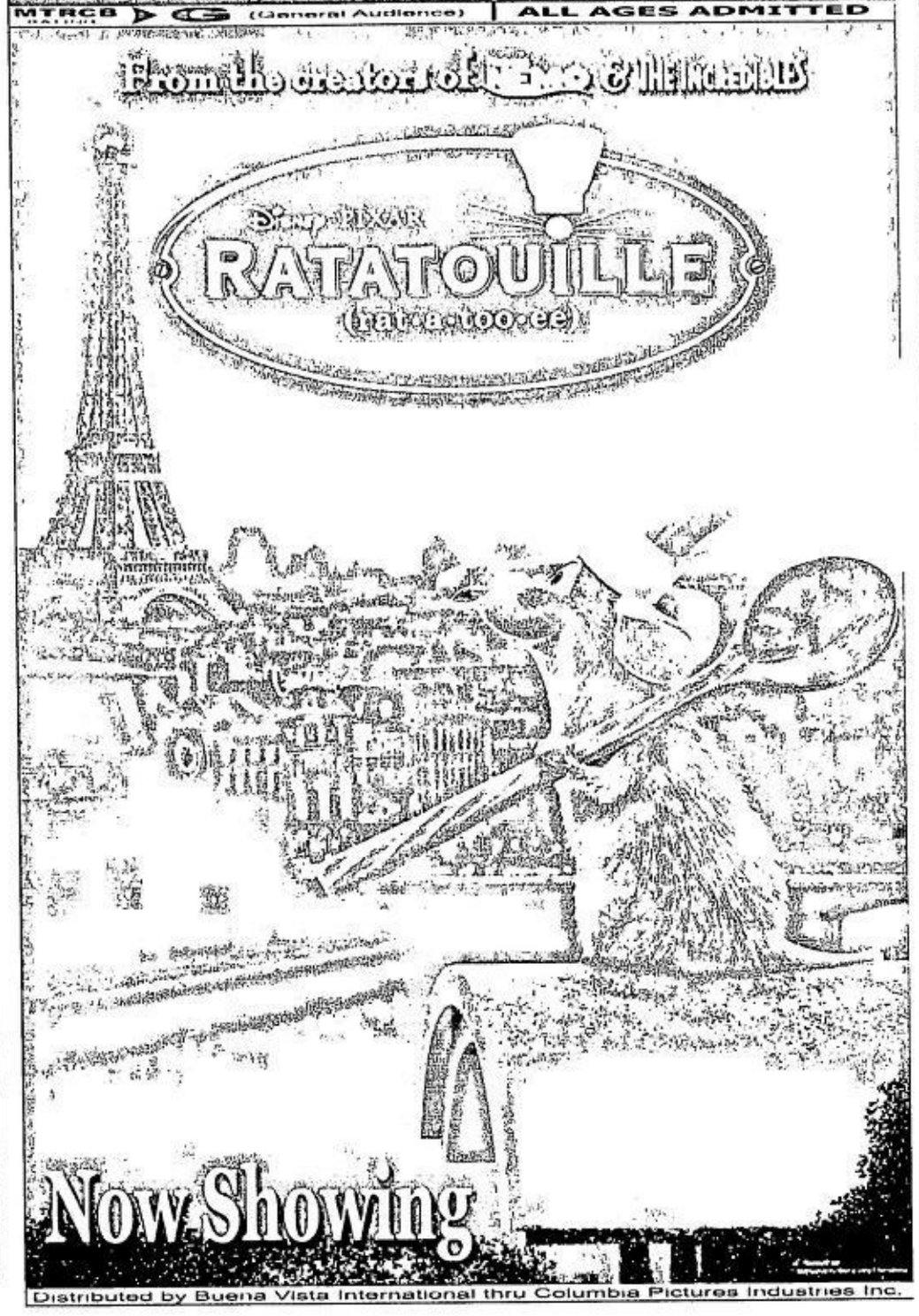
The Cascades' eight-city farewell concert tour starts on August 3 at the Aliw Theater, CCP Complex, Pasay City.

Succeeding shows are on Aug. 9 (Centro Legenda Hotel, Subic Bay Freeport), Aug. 10 (Hyatt Hotel & Casino-Manila), Aug. 11 (Casino Filipino-Angeles City), Aug. 12 (Casino Filipino-Tagaytay), Aug. 14 (Capiz Auditorium Roxas City), Aug. 17 (Cebu International Convention Center) and Aug. 19 (Limketkai Mall, Cagayan de Oro City.

Tickets for the Aliw Theater concert are priced from P1,000 to P2,500.

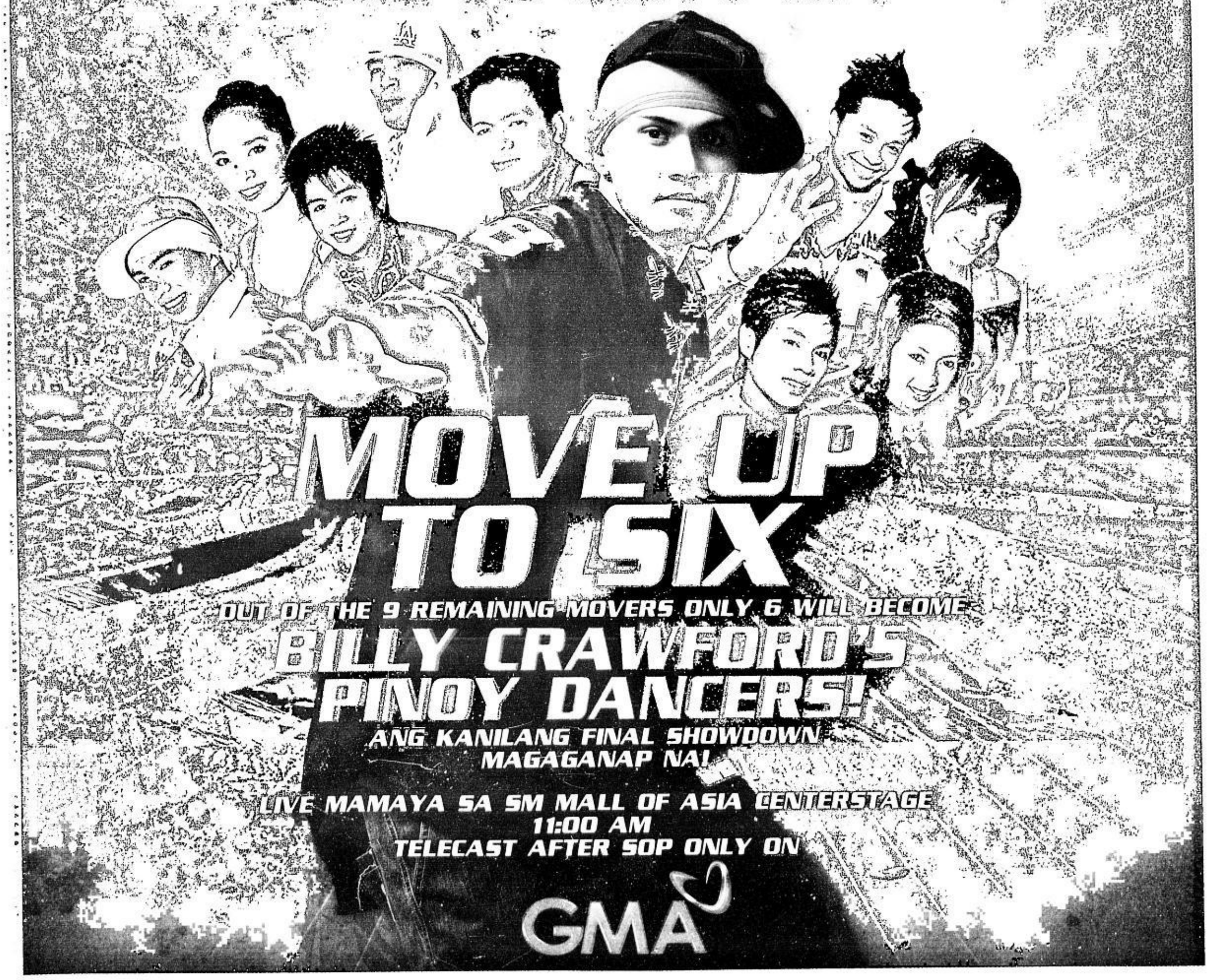
Call Ticketworld at 891-9999.

Unanimously recommended by the MTRCB!!!
MTRCB ▶ G (General Audience) | ALL AGES ADMITTED



Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures Industries Inc.

TIME TO MOVE UP!



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of R-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon
Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon
every Thursday

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
e-mail address:main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
Main Office: Pasong Tamo, Makati City
☎ 8994425 (Direct) ☎ 8970808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F Atrium Bldg., Makati Ave., Makati City
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
St. Anthony's Bldg., Aurora Blvd., Quezon City
☎ 9129008-11 Fax 9129011
SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F Trinity Bldg., 636 T.M. Kalaw St., Manila
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
Classifieds Hotline: ☎ 637-2008

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 929-6626 to 29 • (632) 929-6633 to 35
926-7041 to 43 • (632) 929-6252 • 929-1669

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Republic of the Philippines
Second Land Administration and Management Project
(Loan No. 7298-PH)

PROCUREMENT OF IT EQUIPMENT, COMPUTER SOFTWARES AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENT

IFB No. LAMP 2 –ICB-G-01-2007

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of the Second Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP 2), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for the Procurement of IT Equipment, Computer Softwares and Other Office Equipment.
2. The package is composed of three (3) lots as follows:

Lot No.	Description
1	IT Equipment
2	Computer Softwares
3	Office Equipment

3. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply and delivery of IT Equipment, Computer Softwares and Other Office Equipment. The delivery period is within forty-five (45) calendar days from receipt of the Purchaser's Notice to Proceed (NTP).
4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Atty. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Assistant Secretary and Chair, Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects (BAC-FAPs) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from July 30-September 12, 2007 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.
6. Qualification requirements include technical, financial and legal documents such as: (i) Bidder's ongoing and completed contracts similar to the package for bidding; (ii) Bidder's audited financial statements, credit line or cash deposit certificate; (iii) Manufacturer's authorization in case the Bidder is not the manufacturer or producer of the Goods it offers to supply; and (iv) authorized Philippine representative equipped and able to carry out maintenance, repair and spare parts stocking obligations for bidders not doing business within the Purchaser's country. The Purchaser will grant a margin of preference to goods manufactured in the Purchaser's country for the purpose of bid comparison. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of Philippine Pesos Five Thousand (PhP 5,000.00) or in US Dollars One Hundred Fifty (US$ 150.00) excluding courier fee. The method of payment will be in the form of cash. The Bidding Documents will be sent either by airmail, surface mail or courier services.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 12:00 noon of September 12, 2007. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 1:00 PM of September 12, 2007.
9. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in local currency or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency as follows:

Lot No.	Description	Letter of Credit	Bank Guarantee
Lot 1	IT Equipment	PhP 220,000.00	PhP 330,000.00
Lot 2	Computer Softwares	21,000.00	31,500.00
Lot 3	Other Office Equipment	40,000.00	60,000.00
	Total	**PhP 281,000.00**	**PhP 421,500.00**

10. The address referred to above is:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects Secretariat
(BAC-FAPs Secretariat)
FASPO Building, DENR Compound
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
Telephone Nos. (632) 927-6755, (632) 929-6626 to 29 local 2055
Fax No. (632) 927-6755

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ANALIZA REBUELTA-TEH**
Assistant Secretary and Chair,
Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects
(BAC-FAPs)

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 929-6626 to 29 • (632) 929-6633 to 35
926-7041 to 43 • (632) 929-6252 • 929-1669

Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Republic of the Philippines
Second Land Administration and Management Project
Loan No. 7298-PH

PROCUREMENT OF SURVEY

IFB No. LAMP 2 –ICB-G-02-2007

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) toward the cost of the Second Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP 2), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for the Procurement of Survey Equipment.
2. The package is composed of three (3) lots as follows:

Lot No.	Description
1	Total Stations
2	Differential Code GPS Receivers
3	Geodetic GPS Receivers

3. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply and delivery of Survey Equipment. The delivery period is within forty-five (45) calendar days from receipt of the Purchaser's Notice to Proceed (NTP).
4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Atty. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, Assistant Secretary and Chair, Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects (BAC-FAPs) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from July 30-September 12, 2007 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
6. Qualification requirements include technical, financial and legal documents such as: (i) Bidder's ongoing and completed contracts similar to the package for bidding; (ii) Bidder's audited financial statements, credit line or cash deposit certificate; (iii) Manufacturer's authorization in case the Bidder is not the manufacturer or producer of the Goods it offers to supply; and (iv) authorized Philippine representative equipped and able to carry out maintenance, repair and spare parts stocking obligations for bidders not doing business within the Purchaser's country. The Purchaser will grant a margin of preference to goods manufactured in the Purchaser's country for the purpose of bid comparison. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee of Philippine Pesos Five Thousand (PhP 5,000.00) or in US Dollars One Hundred Fifty (US$ 150.00) excluding courier fee. The method of payment will be in the form of cash. The Bidding Documents will be sent either by airmail, surface mail or courier services.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 10:00 AM of September 12, 2007. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person at the address below at 11:00 AM of September 12, 2007.
9. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in local currency or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency as follows:

Lot No.	Description	Letter of Credit	Bank Guarantee
1	Total Stations	PhP 60,000.00	PhP 90,000.00
2	Differential Code GPS Receivers	64,000.00	96,000.00
3	Geodetic GPS Receivers	120,000.00	180,000.00
	Total	**PhP 244,000.00**	**PhP 366,000.00**

10. The address referred to above is:

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects Secretariat
(BAC-FAPs Secretariat)
FASPO Building, DENR Compound
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines
Telephone Nos. (632) 927-6755, (632) 929-6626 to 29 local 2055
Fax No. (632) 927-6755

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ANALIZA REBUELTA-TEH**
Assistant Secretary and Chair
Bids and Awards Committee for Foreign-Assisted Projects
(BAC-FAPs)

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
Regional Office No. VII
Greenplains Subd., Banilad, Mandaue City
Tel. Nos. 343-8557; 346-2275; 346-1689; 346-9309; 344-3046
Fax No. 346-9176; Email – mgp7cebu@mozcom.com

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

OF SDV INTERNATIONAL EXPORT/IMPORT
FOR EXPLORATION PERMIT

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 21 of DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 96-40, Series of 1996, the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 7942, otherwise known as the "Philippine Mining Act of 1995", **SDV INTERNATIONAL EXPORT/IMPORT**, with office address at **Block 7, Lot 19, Grand Homes Subdivision, Grand Heights, San Roque, Antipolo City**, Philippines has filed an application for Exploration Permit, for the exploration of certain **magnetite sand and other mineral** resources and particularly described as follows:

I. Application Number : **EXPA01-OMR-VII**
II. Date of Filing : **May 17, 2007**
III. Area Location:
Municipality/City : Municipality of Basay and City of Bayawan
Province : ORIENTAL NEGROS
IV. Technical Description of the Area * #

CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	09° 25' 00.000"	122° 37' 30.000"
2	09° 24' 00.000"	122° 38' 30.000"
3	09° 23' 45.000"	122° 39' 00.000"
4	09° 23' 30.000"	122° 39' 30.000"
5	09° 22' 30.000"	122° 40' 30.000"
6	09° 22' 30.000"	122° 43' 30.000"
7	09° 22' 15.000"	122° 44' 00.000"
8	09° 22' 00.000"	122° 45' 00.000"
9	09° 22' 00.000"	122° 46' 00.000"
10	09° 20' 00.000"	122° 46' 00.000"
11	09° 20' 00.000"	122° 39' 30.000"
12	09° 20' 30.000"	122° 39' 30.000"
13	09° 20' 30.000"	122° 39' 00.000"
14	09° 21' 00.000"	122° 39' 00.000"
15	09° 21' 00.000"	122° 38' 30.000"
16	09° 21' 30.000"	122° 38' 30.000"
17	09° 21' 30.000"	122° 38' 00.000"
18	09° 22' 00.000"	122° 38' 00.000"
19	09° 22' 00.000"	122° 37' 30.000"
20	09° 22' 30.000"	122° 37' 30.000"
21	09° 22' 30.000"	122° 37' 00.000"
22	09° 23' 00.000"	122° 37' 00.000"
23	09° 23' 00.000"	122° 36' 30.000"
24	09° 23' 30.000"	122° 36' 30.000"
25	09° 23' 30.000"	122° 36' 00.000"
26	09° 25' 00.000"	122° 36' 00.000"

V. Size of the Area: **8,288.0865** hectares
VI. Duration of the Permit

The permit shall be for a period not exceeding two (2) years from date of issuance, renewable for a term of two (2) years each but in no case shall the total **exceed six (6) years.**

VII. Extent of Operation to be Undertaken

Exploration (Reconnaisance, Semi-Detailed and Detailed Surveys) of magnetite sand and other mineral resources.

Any and all persons having adverse claims, protests and/or opposition to the above mentioned application (s) are hereby notified that their adverse claims should be filed within thirty (30) days from the last date of publication/ posting, directly with the Regional Office concerned or through any concerned Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) or Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO) of the DENR for filing in the Regional Office for purposes of its resolution by the Panel of Arbitrators and/or the concerned appellate body(ies) pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act 7942 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations. Adverse claims, protests or opposition should be accomplished in accordance with Sections 203 and 204 of DENR Administrative Order No. 96-40, Series of 1996 and a copy thereof shall be furnished to the applicant/contractor by the adverse claimant.

For further particulars, apply or course your inquiries to The Regional Director, Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Regional Office No. VII, Greenplains Subdivision, Banilad, Mandaue City, Philippines.

(Sgd.) **ROGER A. DE DIOS**
OIC – Regional Director

(PDI–July 15, 22 & 29, 2007)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Department of Science and Technology
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)
Science Garden, Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City 1100

P.R. No. WB-07-016
WAFS
PAGASA Central Office
Source of Fund: Disaster Mitigation Through Enhanced Forecasts Using Numerical Prediction Products and Satellite Data

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The PAGASA, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites registered PhilGEPS suppliers/ manufacturers/ distributors/ contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project:

Name of Project : Supply and delivery of WAFS
Location : PAGASA Central Office, Science Garden Complex, Agham Rd., Dil., Q.C.

Qty/ Unit	Brief Description	Approved Budget for the Contract	Price Validity	Delivery Period
1 lot	WAFS Equipment and Facilities	P 5,850,000.00	90 c.d.	90 c.d.

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last five (5) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule/ Time	Venue
1. Advertisement/Posting of IAEB	July 29 – August 4, 2007	
2. Issuance of Bid Req. & Documents	July 30 – August 16, 2007/ 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	General Services Section 3/F PAGASA Central Office Bldg.
3. Pre-bid Conference	August 6, 2007 / 2:00 p.m.	Amihan Conference Room 2/F PAGASA Central Office Bldg.
4. Submission of Eligibility Requirements, Envelope I & II	August 17, 2007 / 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.	General Services Section 3/F PAGASA Central Office Bldg.
5. Opening of Eligibility Req. & Envelope I	August 17, 2007 / 11:00 a.m.	Amihan Conference Room
6. Opening of Bids – Envelope II	August 17, 2007 / 2:00 p.m.	2/F PAGASA Central Office Bldg.
7. Bid Evaluation & Post-qualification	August 18 – 24, 2007	
8. Notice of Award	August 31, 2007	

Interested parties may avail Bid Requirements and Bidding Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee equivalent to 0.2% of the approved budget per item in no case lower than P500.00 and not more than P1,000.00 to the PAGASA Cashier, upon presentation of this advertisement clipping, together with the Company's TIN.

The PAGASA assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) **PRISCO D. NILO**
Chairman, PAGASA-BAC

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

(RE-BIDDING)

June 2007
ADB Loan No. 1750-PHI
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Contract No. ADBTES-05

1. The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of the Technical Education and Skills Development Project (TESDP), and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contracts for the **Supply, Delivery, Installation, Testing, Training and Commissioning of Various Information and Communication Technology Equipment (ADBTES-05).**
2. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the supply, delivery, installation, testing, training and commissioning of Various Information and Communication Technology Equipment.
3. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Limited International Bidding procedure.
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from TESDA and inspect the Bidding Document at the address given below from 9:00-4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.
5. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by the interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Philippine pesos 2,000.00 or in US$ equivalent. The method of payment will either be in certified bank cheque or cash. The document will be couriered or sent through registered mail. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
6. Bid must be delivered to the address below on or before **12:00 noon** on **August 13, 2007**. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of not less than 2% of the amount of the bid. Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below at **2:00 PM** on **August 13, 2007**.
7. The TESDA will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by the Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
8. The address is:

Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
Administration Building, TESDA Complex
East Service Road, South Luzon Expressway
Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City
Philippines
Contact : The Bids and Awards Committee Chairman
Telephone Nos. : (63 2) 8174076-81 loc. 314 & 315 and 888-5798
Fax No. : (63 2) 817-9040
Email : **psd_ocsa@tesda.gov.ph**
Website : **www.tesda.gov.ph**

(Sgd.) **TEODORO S. SANICO Ph.D.**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–July 22 & 29, 2007)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
2/F Building 1, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, 1003 Manila
Trunk Line 743-8301 local 1625; 1626 Telefax: 741-97-75
URL: http://www.doh.gov.ph

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid
Republic of the Philippines
PROCUREMENT OF VARIOUS LABORATORY EQUIPMENT
IAEB No. 2007-8-29 (20)

1. The Department of Health (DOH), through the General Appropriations Act 2007 intends to apply the sum of Sixteen Million Ninety Thousand Philippine Pesos (PhP16,090,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Procurement of Various Laboratory Equipment (Lot II). Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. The *DOH* now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the Procurement of Various Laboratory Equipment for the use of Laboratory Services Division, Bureau of Food and Drugs. Delivery of the GOODS is required by ninety (90) calendar days. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorship, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.
4. Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two (2) years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding.
5. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the COBAC Secretariat, 2/F, Building No. 6, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila and inspect the Bidding Documents from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee in the amount of Four Thousand Philippine Pesos (PhP4,000.00). The method of payment will be on a cash basis only. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder on his authorized representative.
7. The DOH will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on 10:00 a.m., August 17, 2007 at the address given below.
8. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before 10:00 a.m., August 29, 2007. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security in the following form and amount in Pesos. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Form of Bid Security	Minimum Amount in % of the Approved Budget for the Contract for the Items for which Bid is Submitted
Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit	One percent (1%)
Bank guarantee	One and a half percent (1.5%)

9. Bid opening shall be on August 29, 2007, 10:00 a.m. at the address given below. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders representatives' who choose to attend at the address below.
10. The DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Central Office Bids and Awards Committee
Ground Floor, Building 6
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Facsimile number: 7419775
Trunkline Number: 7438301 local 1625 and 1626

(Sgd.) **ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**
Undersecretary of Health and
COBAC Chairperson

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

Condo Unit 610 SQ.M. Office and Warehouse in Makati, For Rent
Call Mr. Jimby Sanchez
(02) 725-1131
or
(02) 844-4767
or **0915-4051587**

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT
8th Flr NOL Tower,
Commerce Avenue,
Madrigal Business Park,
Ayala Alabang,
Muntinlupa City
Flr. Area 110.70 sq. mtrs.
Call Tel. No. 850-8936

UNDER RENOVATION
Inquirer Classifieds
SM Megamall Branch, 5th Floor Building B
from **July 30** to **September 15, 2007.**
For ad placements, please call
6350219, 6350220
or **8978808.**

For your Classified and Obituary Ads please call:
☎ 637-2008

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

CRIMINOLOGISTS
Detectives
Investigators
Lie Detector Examiners
TRUTH VERIFIER SYSTEMS,INC.
Tel. nos. 634-7570/634-7571

MEDICAL

GARMA CLINIC
VD SPECIALIST
VD GONORRHEA, WARTS SYPHILIS, STD, HERPES
CHILD & ADULT CIRCUMCISION
Painless, Bloodless
SKIN DISEASES
ALLERGIES RE-CURRENT
UTI, ALMORANAS,
ERECTION PROBLEMS
INFERTILITY/IMPOTENCE,
MOLE/CYST/SCAR REMOVAL
KELOID/PAP SMEAR
COMPLETE LABORATORY
Garma Bldg., No. 8 Purdue St., Cubao, Q.C.
OPEN 9 AM to 6 PM MON. to SAT.
TEL. NOS. 4392706
4373898/9139474

PERSONAL

TUTORIAL LESSONS

IELTS REVIEW TOEFL IBT ENGLISH fluency 4102580 www.nytcenter.com 9141962

MISCELLANEOUS

ANAY TREATMENT 24 YEARS EXP. FREE ESTIMATE 8421359 FORMERLY FROM MAPECON

SEAMAN OFW LOAN 4-6hrs release All Kinds of Loans up to 500K 0918-7870380

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

DirectMaidYayaInlCookDriver 7289060

Drct Maid Yaya Inf/cook Driver Boy 7293965

DRVR MAID COOK 8902722

Provincial Maids Labandera Yaya Available Call 9165601

Trst/maids Yaya Cr/iver M/ville cook boy 7265834

Yaya,Cook,H'Maid 8957507

LIPAT BAHAY

LIPAT BAHAY TRUCK 4 HIRE 925-6876 / 426-6148 0917-8035049

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

•Proj6 #58Road3 P1.6M DP• 9219967/0255; 09178865431

HOUSE & LOT

AAV 810m² 0927-3592947

BLUE RIDGE 2,557 SQM. P16,000/SQM GREAT VIEW TEL. 894-9898 (OFC) 647-6819 (HOME),ASK 4 RIC

• BRAND NEW HOUSE • 3BR 4T&B, Maid's Rm 2Car Gar. FA 170m², LA 78.25m² 130-132 E. Abada St. Varsity Hills Subd., Loyola Hgts. Q.C. Open Hse. (Sat./Sun)920-1193/0920-9251885 0922-8552404/0921-7401619

•BIRMINGHAM• www.hdc-realestate.com Houses & Lots for Sale CAINTA, ANTIPOLO, GEN TRIAS, SAN MATEO, MONTALBAN As low as P9,038.67/mo Bank, Pag-ibig, In House Financing Brokers Welcome 6550134; 09202202715

Hse&Lot4sale Concorde Pque 09179511677 • 8536318

IRENEVILLE SUBD SUCAT 1053 sqm 8.5M 9178227770

KAMUNING BNEW 4sty w/ 18 Rooms for Rental BUS P15M 4352186 / 09204330282

KAMUNING BNEW P7.3M 4sty Com'l / Resd'l 4BR4TB Call 435-2186 / 09178982677

MABAVILLA Subd. nr. SM Dasma Cavite P1.4M up. bal. 25 years 0927-7968939

New Legarda Subd Bustos Bul 3M very nice 09178227770

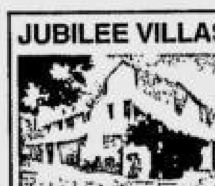
•NEW 4YR HSE 2CAR GRGE• 5 BR GARDEN 09178132018

PROJ3 BNEW NR LRT STN P6.5M #18 Dao 09204330282

PROVIDENT #228 Riverside 9219967/0255 ;09178865431

RUSH SALE!!! Hse & Lot Call 998-2387; 0921-6508631 0921-7945968

JUBILEE VILLAS



PRIME LOCATION
In Tandang Sora, QC
Top Quality Newly Built Townhouses
Secured Compound
s/pool & stable water supply
LAST PHASE only 3 units left; 32 units sold
Our prices are HALF the usual condominium prices.
15 mins to SM/Ayala Trinoma North Ave Malls
HLURB License 04012
Marketing Coordinator
ZITRO REAL ESTATE
For inquiries, please call
Tels: 818.2781 / 751.5472
Mobile: 0916-5582538
Licensed Brokers Welcome

CONDOMINIUM UNITS FOR SALE
Located at
EUROPA CONDO., MINES VIEW PARK, and LEGARDA ROAD, BAGUIO CITY
Furnish/Unfurnish
Makati ofc.
812-7566 / 816-4245

HOUSE & LOT

SIKATUNA VILL QC Bnew P5.2M 4352186;09204330282

CONDO/TWNHSE

1.5M - Up RESORT-TYPE 2-3BR, Near Makati or Ortigas 10% DP to move-in •0917-5234223 www.resort-living.net

RBNSONS G8WAY1 PIONEER NEW 1BR 38m² T-7463217

26.5sqm Studio FF P1.6M CENT CITADEL 09175272166

ATENEO RENT/SALE 5642622

California Garden Square Libertad St. Mand City 3BR 2T&B & Car Grge Fully Furnished Call 445-1337/0915-9092306 /0910-7322460

Citystate Centre Condominium 100-140 sq. m. P250-280/sq. m. 818-7879 / 892-4148

Condo VVerde2 3BR 3T&B w/ carpark 3.5M nego T4567200

CUBAO P1.5M 10%DP 7yrs to pay 0% interest 09178667949

* EXEC RESORT. CONDO * 1.3M-UP 10% DP MOVE -IN 2-4BR, 58m²-Up Big Discl 2yrs Wrntyl C5 0920-5613034

FINANCING AVAILABLE 3 VICTORIAN T/house Unit In Britanny Bay La Posadas at below DEVELOPER'S PRICE

UNIT	L/A	F/A	P	NOW
D21	88m²	171m²	7.5M	6.034M
D3	98m²	171m²	8.363	6.57M
D01	88m²	171m²	8.158	6.527M

PORTOFINO LOT 522m² P6.8M now P5.9M Tony Ongsiako 09193388288;4216182/83 loc104

LE MIRAGE
FEW UNITS LEFT!!!
As low as 30% D.P.
15yrs. Bank fin.
(P18,415.95/mo)
Ready for Occupancy
Call (02)-5225950 / 5228703 0917-8307643

Nr. PGH STUDIO 1.6M/1BR 3.7M 2BR 5.6M up T-09189132396

P1.7M PASIG NR TIENDESITAS 10% DP 1Yr 0 Int P18T/Mo. 10Mins Fr Ortigas 0917-8169849

P2M C5 NR THE FORT 10% DP 1Yr 0 Int P21T/Mo. 10Mins Fr Ayala 0917-8313226

P3M BORACAY CONDOTEL Earn P30T/Mo. or R.O.I. in 7Yrs RFO Dec 2007 0922-8883399

PASEO PARKVIEW MKTI P7M 1BR +PARKING 0917-8368896

PASIG ORT 2br 42m² 1.8M 3br 66m² W /Parking 3.5M 0919-5515034

QC Sikatuna Thses 4br w/ grg nr Ateneo UP Ace Supermart Call 9215328 ; 09166496838

Rush Sale Promo!!!
2BR PHAUS (127sqm) - 4.9M
2BR (75sqm) - 2.5M
1BR (40sqm) - 1.5M
Studio (25sqm) - 1M
ASIAWEALTH TOWER
Near La Salle / St. Scholastica
Call (02) 522-59-50
0917-8307643

RUSH SALE!
FURNISHED CONDOMINIUM UNIT EAST ORTIGAS MANSIONS Ortigas Ave. Ext. Pasig City 60m² floor area/6m² drying area 2 Bedrooms, 1 Toilet/Bath P3M / Call 0916-6264776

APARTMENT

7-DR APARTMENT 4 SALE CONTACT SANI @ 645-7251/ • 0920-9129580 •

FOR LEASE
1. OFFICE SPACES
Salcedo Village, Makati
2. STORE SPACES/ WAREHOUSES
Dasmariñas, Cavite
Alabang-Zapote Rd., Las Piñas
3. CHEMICAL TANKS
Bauan, Batangas
ALL RENTAL – NEGOTIABLE
Call Tel. No. 892-2681 to 96
ARIEL / DING / REXIE

LOT

1Hectare Ban-ao Solana Jasaan Misamis Oriental Call 0910-3886306 • 0915-6055527

250m²@ 2L nr Ateneo Adj nw Intramuros 11.5/m² 9224747; 09182351010

40SQM Hulo Mand. 750K 09227846389 / 09216923421

84 SQM BNGONAN 843 5555

Baras 1.5H T632-7759 Alg Rd

GRT LOC ACACIA LANE NR WACK¹ GRNHILLS PVT GRDED EXCL CMPD W/250-300M² LOTS 6LOTS LEFT W/AMENITIES P28.5K/M ²CASH LESS 10% DISC 6MOS LESS 5% DISC 12 MOS NO INT BROKERS WELCOME FOR INFO CALL JEMAK CORP 535-5520 531-6954 532-3271

Lakeshore Pampanga 229m² P5,300 /sqm 09178227770

Lot For Sale or For Lease 3,138sqm 2 Story Bldng 3 Residential Units Warehouse Accomodate 4 Ten Wheeler Truck 2558 Severino Reyes St. Sta. Cruz Manila Tel. 8213272 Cell 09285027436 Martin Benoza

PANDI BULACAN 3500SQM ALONG NATIONAL RD KM 35 DIRECT BUYERS ONLY CALL/TEXT 0920-9388744

RUSH LOT FOR SALE Parkview Homes Pque T - 09063797918 / 09195241794

SOUTH PEAK SANPEDRO LAG LOT4 BLOCK13 09178566245

•TAGAYTAY COLDEST SPOT• 150m² 3,500/m² nr Taal Vista w/ club pool 84T D/P 6t/mo 6472407

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

D'LUX 3BDR 3TB FULL FURN MDS RM DRIVERS QTR FA 215M² W/SWIMPOOL & PLAYGRND STRNG H'O GEN-SET PVT CMPD 24-HRS SEC GRD NEAR WACK³ P55K/MO 535-5520 531-6954

CONDO/TWNHSE

#1419 PARK AVE., MANSION PASAY TEL. 7355414 TERY 09167981109

2BR 2BT WPARKING EXCLNT VIEW 14FLR LEVERIZA VCRUZ 18K NEG 09177446580

2BR Condo nr SM Centerpt Sta.Mesa 8133568 8138420

2BR FULLY FURN. 18TH./MO. CUBAO GOOD LOC. 646-1603

Condo 2BR nr Ateneo 15K w/parking 8138420 8133568

Condo Cattleya Gardens 2BR 40K 813-3568 813-8420

CONDO PRINCE PLAZA MKTI 1BR 25K W/PARKING 813-8420 813-3568

CONDO TAGAYTAY 1 BR NR MENDEZ MKT 0920-9039193

EAST ORTIGAS MANSION PASIG 2BR • 0906-2654917

New 190m² big 3BR3TB Maid 1car grge secure bldg San Juan Greenhills Call 7237018

OFC SPACE 181 SQ MAKATI W/ PARKING 813-3568 813-8420

Studio Type GOV PLACE F/F P12T/mo. Contact 0906-3797918 / 0919-6241794

APARTMENT

1&2BR NR P.GIL 5634007/5691978

2BR 2T&B call 09178472305 L18 B10 Cypress LP 8K/mo

AIRPORT APARTEL 800 DAY 5.6T mo. A/C CBLE 8544832-33

Gladiola St Tambo Pque Near Pearl Plaza W/ Garage Tel. 8325146

PASAY 2BR 8.5K T-8315286

MAKATI LOT FOR SALE
Area: 400 SQ.M.
Location: Felipe St., Poblacion
- Only 3 houses from Kalayaan Avenue at the back of Iglesia ni Cristo Church
- near Rockwell Center

METRO BAGUIO LOT FOR SALE
Area: 15 Hectares
Location: Acop, Tublay, Benguet
With plenty of pine trees, Titled and suitable for Retirement Village or Subdivision & only 30 minutes away from Baguio towards Sagada & Banaue
CALL: 0918 941 8659

WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

QC Whse 350/600/420m² pkg space, acesible 4563243

ROOM & BOARD

MAKATI APARTEL 8974218

BEDSPACE

LADY BEDSPACES 843 55 55

MALE BEDSPACE IN ORTIGAS CONDO 9143941 • 09209232484

BUSINESS RENTAL

Nr Kamuning Mrket 5700204

LOAN & MORTGAGE

PERSONAL LOANS 524-3197

1.2% MONTHLY 8976644 to 46
LAS PINAS 8054326 / 2832
QUEZON CITY 3730239 & 30
CAINTA/PASIG 2401300/6811058
LLOYDS FINANCING CORP.

LOT FOR LEASE

PRIME LOC ON SHAW BLVD 1608M² W/400M² 2-STORY CONC BLDG 3TB 4 SPLIT TYPE AC 1000M² PARKING SPACE CALL 535-5520 531-6954

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Office Space for Rent 119 sq. m. Makati 818-7879 / 8924148

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

Let us help you find your property needs >SALE/RENT/MARKET >H&L/CONDO/LOT/BLDG >MKT CBD/Fort/Rockwell/QC >R.F.O./PRE-DEV/BANK4CLOSED *RUSH & GOOD DEALS >KASIYAHAN HOMES FORBES Big H&L, 12br for SALE >SHANG GRAND TOWER "25c, 2br 162fa FF 4 RENT" "Penthouse, 3br SF 4 RENT" >PASEO PARKVIEW SUITES "2br 114sqm w/pkg semi-fur Facing park - DBO pls" 1br 27/f bare facing ayala 3br HighFloor bare w/pkg 2br ff 4 RENT-facing park studio 9/f facing park bare/ff >ONE LEGASPI PARK-AYALA 2br facing park P11m only 97fa, bare, corner w/pkg 2br 28/f facing Gbelt P11.5m Studio/1br SALE/RENT >SALCEDO PARK TOWER "11a 4br SF-4 SALE/RENT" >RESIDENCES @ GREENBELT 22/f 2br 119fa 2pkg P14.5m LagunaTower-Turover 1Q '08 >ASIA TOWER @ GREENBELT "9/F ff corner w/pkg P5.6m" Studio/1br/2br SALE/RENT >SWIRE ELAN - GREENHILLS "2br w/good view-SALE/RENT >KENSINGTON PLACE D FORT "Brandnew 2br bare P5.5m" FORT CONDO-MANY CHOICES *SALE or RENT UF/FF Resale units / Pre-development >ONE McKINLEY PLACE >PPT/ESSENSA/REGENT/OMP >SERENDRA/INFINITY/SOMA *OFFICE SPACE SALE/RENT "Small/Big or Entire Bldg" *RESIDENTIAL/COMM'L Forbes/Dasma/BelAir/AAV GM/ACRO/WP/VV/ New MNL *BRITTANY PROJECTS >Avant @Fort/ Mosaic @Mkt >La posada/Porto/Crosswinds *ETON PROPERTIES >Greenbelt/Emerald/Manila *"FEATURED PROPERTIES >#94 Greenmeadows Ave P25m LA875, FA400+sqm-RUSH! >#81Calypso-Acro 5br 3 storey LA300, FA500sqm-SALE/RENT >Comm'l Vacant Lot 4 RENT 852sqm along SS Hiway/Mkt *AFPOVAI @ the FORT Lot/H&L/Townhouse/Duplex Good Location & INVESTMENT *Or let us know your need *we also help owners market Specially RUSH/DISTRESS SALE *WANTED GOOD SECRETARY ww.propertyprovidergroup.com Pls. click on "BEST DEALS" >Alda 0910.555.2753 / 893.2056 >Aldrin 0918.939.29.79 / 750.4842 Invest on REAL property now!

CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

HAMPTON CONDO PASIG 2BR 39 SQM 2M 09184815570

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

MAZDA 3 PROMO 50%DOWN 0%INT. 12MOS. 2245 PASONG TAMO MAKATI 0917-5350903 • 7512236

TOYOTA REVO VX 200 '03 MODEL METALLIC GRAY P580K MINT CONDITION 55K KM NEW TIRES SEE TO APPRECIATE. CALL 5316954 • 5355520

CARS

4 SALE '05 STAREX JUMBO CRDI M/T A1 CONDITION CALL MANNY 09209234753

Isuzu Crosswind XUV 2002 automatic black casa maintained, 1 st owner S Kinis 550K, Cell 09178888574

Pajero jr 365T 09178227770

TCorolla XE '96 white loaded P165K neg 0918-6411169 Gia

OTHER CAR BRANDS

BERYLLE CARS Araneta Ctr Cubao nr Ali Mall 4391117 ; 09178212618 Finance T-in Consignment Pajero Trooper Friendy Safari MU Largo Estima Odysey MPV Urvan Mistral Delica S.Wagon Granvia Regius Surf ELF Canter etc Branch 2179 Taft Ave Pasay

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

VANS 9226702 9214535

WANTED TO BUY

KOTSE MO BILI KO T-8990215

CAR LOAN

1% AUTOLOAN 788-0361

1% Car Lending 6560140 United Tree Car Loan Corp.

1% CARLOAN 373-6519

1% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1% EASY CARLOAN 8997759

1% Sangla ur Car 5344441

1% w/out taking car 5315577

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% easy carloan 7815352/55

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/out taking car 7262780

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

APPLIANCES

Tokai Piano As New P50K Microwave Convection/Grill Oven (Brand New) P12K American Home Deluxe Cabinet Singer SewMaster As New P13K Cash Only SOL 8901831

BILLIARDS

Sale/Rental/Servce 8014494

ELECTRONIC & INDUSTRIAL EQUIP

CAT GENSET 769KVA/615KW AI COND W/ PANEL & ACC CAN SYNC CAL 9167368939

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT PIANOS: TERMS -T7213124

UNDERGROUND SCANNER
Uses NASA Technology to locate heavy metal, tunnels & water.
For information
Call John at: 533-5384

PETS

Chiwa' female 25T comp shots choco line 09209268465

Cute LhasaPups papr 8906331

DOG TRAINER 0920-4900619

LABRADOR 6 - 7 Thou nego / with papers 09157808798

National K9 Obedience Protection 5756590

ROTT PUPS 9114203 ; 09209245742

WANTED TO BUY

BOILER - 500 HP SHELL & TUBE CONDENSER 200-1000 SQ. FT. FILTER PRESS 36 "X36" & 1.2M x 1.2M Please Call Denis Gadoza Tel No. 635-0680 (Office hrs only) Cell 0920-4775195

BUYING ROLEX SWISS WATCHES BEST PRICE 7269687•0917-8884040

BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX
& other SWISS SWATCHES
JEWELRY
DIAMONDS
BEST PRICE
SPOT CASH
8341572
8316712

WE BUY at HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
HIS & HERS Watch Center
5646593 . 5897041
0917-8473744
Room 603
Manila Pavilion Hotel
and
GoldCrest Bldg.
Glorietta-2, Makati

PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE
PAWN*BUY*SELL
WATCHES
Jewelry & Diamonds
BEST APPRAISAL
Secondo Glorietta 1
Tel# 894-0282
Agencia de Makati
Tel# 889-7956

MISCELLANEOUS

Elect wheelchair 09178227770

Laptop IBM P5-14T 833-2355

www.patstoys.com FOR SALE Call 533-0210 / 532-9590 / 09209035520

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER COURSE Study Now Pay Later T3026893 0917-7924104 • 0922-8148322

LEGAL NOTICE

Extrajudicial settlement among heirs of late JULIA ORTEGA who died last Jan19, 2007. Before Notary Public Atty Pedro Genato Doc No 256 Page No 52 Series 2007 (PDI-July 15, 22 & 29, 2007)

Notice is given the estate of late sps Albert Villasenor & Felicidad Isaac was extrajudicially settled among their heirs as perd Doc 309; Page63; Book VII Series 2005 under Notary Public Atty Dolorsindo Paner of Manila PDI-July 22, 29&Aug 5, 2007

Notice is given that extrajudicial settlement of the estate of the late ROLANDO C. PERALTA has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Notary public of Atty. ARCHIBALD R. RELLOSA on document # 332 page 67 book II issue of 2006 on November 14,2006 at Makati City (PDI-July 15,22 & 29 2007)

METRO PHARMA PHILIPPINES, INC.
Developing Value in Healthcare

We are a dynamic and rapidly growing company involved in the marketing of high quality ethical pharmaceutical products. To support our business expansion programs, we are in need of career-oriented, aggressive, dynamic and energetic individuals who have the passion to excel and go beyond their level best as:

PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES (PMRs)

These PMRs are tasked to build the value-adding brand image of our high quality pharmaceutical products among medical doctors and other key practitioners & stakeholders in the medical community. The job requires fervor and commitment to create and develop demand for MPPI products in pre-determined territories nationwide.

- Male or Female, not over 35 years of age
- Graduate of Science or any Business related course
- Highly skilled in oral & written communication (especially oral communication)
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Ambitious, assertive, self-motivated, and competitive with high initiative for creativity and learning.
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines
- Experience in medical selling is an advantage but will not be required

Interviews will be conducted Monday to Friday at 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., from July 30 to August 20, 2007 on a First Come First Serve Basis, interested applicants should bring their resumes and pictures to:

METRO PHARMA PHILS., INC.
600 MPPI Bldg. Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
email: hrd@metropharma.com

HIGH QUALITY HEAD HUNTER, INC.
107 G/F CHANELAY TOWER, ROXAS BLVD., PASAY
(BACK OF HERITAGE HOTEL)
FOR IMMEDIATE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT!
FIRE PROTECTION SPECIALISTS
1. PIPE WELDERS (CROSSMAIN LINES/RISERS)
2. PIPE FITTERS (BRANCH LINES/DROPPINGS)
3. FIRE PROTECTION FOREMEN
4. FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS
BRING BIO-DATA AND OTHER CREDENTIALS
CALL 854-49-48 OR 854-79-28
MS. ELSA/MS. SHOWNE

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of the late ANDRES WENCESLAO was adjudicated by his heirs as per Doc. No. 469, Page No. 96, Book No. XX Series of 2007 under Notary Public Reynaldo Bernardo of Binangonan, Rizal. (PDI-July 29, Aug. 5 & 12, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Lourdes B. Blanco who died on May 20, 2005 consisting of real property located in Quezon City and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title 9TCT) RT-3429 (57483) of the Registry of Deeds of Quezon City has been extrajudicially settled through the execution of a Deed of Extra-Judicial Partition and Quick Claim by and among her heirs as follows:
1. Elizabeth Ann Stonehill Levy on February 11, 2007 under Notary Public Shari L. Swartz and authenticated by Betsey Bayless, Secretary of State of the State of Arizona dated February 23, 2007.
2. Susan Jane Stonehill.
3. Harry Steven Stonehill, Jr. and
4. Michael Joseph Stonehill on April 25 and 26, 2007 and May 3, 2007. respectively under Acknowledgements of the Foreign Service of the Philippines, Embassy of the Philippines, Washington, DC, and Attestations of their Signatures by Domingo P. Nolasco, Consul General.
5. Katherine Stonehill on February 20, 2007 under Notary Public Christiane Bovet and authenticated by the Philippine Consul General, Geneva, Switzerland by Vice Consul Jesus Enrique G. Garcia II, on February 21, 2007.
(PDI-July 22, 29 & August 5, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ALBERTO BUNLEON was extrajudicially settled by the heirs before Notary Public STEVEN J. SENESCU of Grayslake ILLI. USA on June 6,2007. (July 22,29, & Aug 5,2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late FILOMENA A. BARCELONA has been extrajudicially settled as per Doc#283 Page#60 Book#168 Series of 2007 before Notary Public Atty. Francisco P. Taala (PDI July 15, 22 & 29, 2007)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ELADIO SIMPLICIO VALDOMAR ISLETA was Extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. 610 Page XXXI Book C111 Series of 2007 under Notary Public Atty. Gerardo A. Cruz of QC (PDI-July 22, 29 & Aug. 5, 2007)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is Hereby Given that the GreenCard/US Permanent Resident Card,California I.D. US Social Security I.D. issued to BIENVENIDA S. TANDOC JR. is lost if Found Please Call 02-6976072 (PDI July 29, 2007)

PERSONAL

Dear Holy Spirit Thank You from Gemma P. Santos

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Marketing supervisor 35-55y.o text name/bckgrd 09194039971

FOR SALE
1 Lot P7.5M
ALL IN GOOD RUNNING CONDITION
1 unit 2 COLORS Web Machine Goss Suburban Cut Off 22¾" x 34"
1 unit 2 colors Offset Akiyama 19"x25"
1 unit 2 colors Offset Daiya Mitsubishi (Perfecting) 28"x40"
1 unit 10 clamps Perfect Binding Machine (PBM)
1 unit 3 knife Trimmer 45" Como
1 unit Folding Machine aum 28"x40"
1 unit Smyth Minami (Sewing Machine)
1 unit Stitching Machine Graph (Hans Muller)
1 unit Plate Making Screen
1 unit Offset Multilith
1 unit Pressing Machine
1 unit Pressing Machine Stuttgart
1 unit Book Pressing Machine
1 unit Book Scrap Machine
1 unit Manual Gluing Machine
1 unit Cover Stacker
1 unit Roller Washer
1 unit Perforating Machine
1 unit Dainippon Vertical Camera
1 unit Vertical Camera
1 LOT P10M
1 unit 4 Colors HEIDELBERG Machine
1 unit 2 Colors HEIDELBERG Machine
1 Color Roland Mishle 20"x23"
1 Color Sakurai 12"x18"
P4.7M
1 unit Colors Solna Commercial 22¾"x26"
CALL 09285067538/09209544659

WANTED TO BUY
1 UNIT OF 2ND HAND GENERATOR:
SPECIFICATION: 500-1000 KVA,
440 VOLTS, 3 PHASE, 60 HERTZ
LOOK FOR : Mr. Melencio Jorge
938-67-32 TO 35 / 0917-8903177

CHEVY AVEO '06
1.2 MT
HATCHBAHC
450T NEGO.
RUSH
MILEAGE: 500+
AGNES - 5216623
(0922) 8176238

RYKEROLL RENT-A-VAN
07 URVAN ESCAPADE
10 HOURS P1,800
WITH DRIVER
7878776 / 7964377
09213497170

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EARN Php8-16,000 pesos/mo. In your Free Time. Join our Multi-Level Network Marketing Program. For more info Call 824-7121 • 635-5030 • 631-9443 • 0920-6456410

Earn 48,000/mo. Distributor Start w/ 7,000 Franchise Outlet 149K R.O.I. 85% Guaranted San Miguel Products Purefoods, Monterey, Coke • 0919-6333143

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Attractive Restaurant space Ready to Operate Call 4539043 / 09228895662 QC Area

BAKERY FOR SALE VERY CHEAP CALL OR TEXT 0917-5771169 LOOK FOR STEVEN

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

(1)Account Executive (F) -experience in printing company (2)Printing Cost Estimator (3).Administrative Assistant (25-35 yrs old)-experience in factory,w/ strong personality -w/ knowledge in computer software,corel draw & photoshop(4)Die Cutter(4) Junior (Heidelberg) Operator 837-9645, 8379694,8380585 0918-9029485

24 PROFESSIONALS 15-45K /mo 23-45y/o gud com skills travel Op txt name age bckgrnd 09105664488

ACCTG STAFF-URGENT to-nychan.cpa@gmail.com

ARCHITECH
Per Project Basis Experience In High Rise Construction 924-9323 / 414-4119 email: gericafrente@yahoo.com

CAREGIVER • 302-6893

CAREGIVER • 302-6893

Chief Cook for a Restaurant Bar Loc in Las Pinas 8064146 09209328152

DEP ED MARIKINA CITY OSEC DECSB MTCHR1-31494 TCH3-30071 36228 30099 TCH2-36122 36193 36233 36166 35933 36086 36143 47747 36817 47753 47582 47782 47588 30115 30015

DEPED MARIKINA OSEC DECSB TCHR2 30252 TCHR1 51102 LET PBET PASSER

Hiring Accounting Grad 38-D ERC Bldg. M. Alvarez Ave., Las Pinas City 800-0913

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

For Immediate Hiring!!!
THERAPISTS
Female 19-25y/o w/ pleasing personality willing to stay-in. With and w/o experience Bali Spa Tel. (02) 497-4458 / (0922)322-2598

(M) Foot Reflexologist / Nail Tech 300/day Call 932-8561

Newly Licensed PHARMACIST Needed w/ Field World Computer Literate Female 655-0608 / 0916-5946808

SALES CONSULTANT 18-35YO 10T/MO +COMM INCENTIVES 0922-8773177 0920-9473177 COLL GRAD EXP. HANIE ABEN

SALES EXEC / MKTG ASST Male 23-30 years old Commonwealth QC Constrctn Industry fax Resume 9315537

URGENT NEED
LICENSED PHARMACIST (F)
25-35 yrs old
Pls call 776-9946/2348

IMMEDIATE HIRING
of EXPD Heidelberg Operator for Kord 64 & Kors. Living w/in or nr the vicinity of Mandaluyong is an advantage.Call 534-6444&532-0148

Exp. Pre-School Teacher English, Motivated call 815-0265/815-0263

MALE

2,000 Men Workers Wanted (20-30 years old) Reply to: evensenj@yahoo.ca

FEMALE

Acctg. Grad. Fem. Single 22-26 yrs. old w/ exp. Computer Literate, Call 818-7879/8924148

MALE/FEMALE

HIRING: Architectural & Structural Draftsman Submit resume 5th Flr Prudentiallife Bldg 843 Pasay Rd Makati 813-8420

Wanted Lic Med Tech 5418778

Where you find the best.
JOB Market

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Housing and Urban Development
Coordinating Council
HOUSING AND LAND
USE REGULATORY BOARD

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION NO. 805
Series of 2007

ACCREDITING THE NORTHRAIL AND SOUTHRAIL LINKAGE PROJECTS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY AS COMPLIANCE TO SECTION 18 OR RA 7279

WHEREAS, the Northrail and Southrail Linkage Project of the government are in dire need of infrastructure and support facilities;

WHEREAS, for these resettlement projects to be viable, the private sector participation can be tapped more particularly housing developers relative to their compliance to the social housing requirement of Section 18 of RA 7279;

WHEREAS, said developer's participation can be in the provision of support/community facilities, improvement of housing units, support to livelihood and training programs, site beautification, etc.;

WHEREAS, under Section 18 (b) of RA 7279, resettlement programs of the government is considered one of the modes of compliance to the social housing requirement;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved that a housing developers participation in the provision of infrastructure and support facilities for the Northrail and Southrail Linkage Project be accredited as compliance to Section 18 of RA 7279.

Be it resolved further that this mode of compliance may be used for main projects anywhere in the country.

APPROVED, 16 May 2007, Pasay City.

THE HONORABLE NOLI L. DE CASTRO
Vice-President of the Philippines &
HUDCC Chairman

ERNESTO L. PINEDA
Undersecretary, DOJ

ROMULO Q. FABUL
Chief Executive Officer
and Commissioner

AUGUSTO B. SANTOS
Deputy Director-General, NEDA

TERESITA A. DESIERTO
Commissioner

AUSTERE A. PANADERO
Assistant Secretary, DILG

JESUS YAP PANG
Commissioner

JOEL L. JACOB
DPWH

ARTURO M. DUBLADO
Commissioner

Attested by:

CHARITO B. LANSANG
Board Secretary

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Furnishing, Delivering, Installing, Testing and Commissioning of 2 x 90MVAR, 500kV Power Shunt Reactor and its Associated Equipment (Sp07.KSSP.Lt-0099)

1. The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (TRANSCO)**, through its **Annual Corporate Budget**, intends to apply the sum of **Philippine Peso 357,380,000.00** for the Furnishing, Delivering, Installing, Testing and Commissioning of 2 x 90MVAR, 500kV Power Shunt Reactor and its Associated Equipment (Sp07.KSSP.Lt-0099) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the above project. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. **TRANSCO** now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the **Furnishing, Delivering, Installing, Testing and Commissioning of 2 x 90MVAR, 500kV Power Shunt Reactor and its Associated Equipment.** Delivery and Installation of the GOODS is required within **Five Hundred Eighty Five (585) calendar days from contract effectivity.** The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section IB of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is open to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorship, organizations and to Foreign bidders whose country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine the bid's responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) determined after the conduct of the post-qualification evaluation.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **TRANSCO** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address stated in Item 10 starting **July 23, 2007** from **8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address stated below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of ***Philippine Peso 20,000.00.*** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. **TRANSCO** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **August 7, 2007, 9:00 A.M.** at *E. Rodriguez Function Room, Power Training Center Building, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.*
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the venue of the bid opening stated in Item 8 on or before **9:00 A.M.** of **August 23, 2007.** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form and in the amount specified in Section III of the Bidding Documents, BDS. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
8. Bid opening shall be held on **August 23, 2007, 9:00 A.M.** at *H.C. Gaerlan Function Room, Power Training Center Building, National Transmissin Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.* Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.
9. **TRANSCO** reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder/s.
10. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the BAC Secretariat at the following address:

Mr. Richard D. Nabong
Manager, Bids and Contracts Management Department (BCMD)
Ground Floor, TransCo Main Building, Power Center
National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road
1104 Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, PHILIPPINES
Tel. Nos.: (632) 921-2308, 981-2212, 981-2213; Telefax No: (632) 981-2308
Email address: **rdnabong@transco.ph**
http://ww.transco.ph

(Sgd.) ATTY. NOEL Z. DE LEON
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – July 21 & 29, 2007)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Supply and Delivery of Transmission Line Materials and Construction of Concepcion – Clark 230kV Transmission Line Project (Sp07.CCTP.Lt-0102)

1. The **NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (TRANSCO)**, through its **Annual Corporate Budget**, intends to apply the sum of **Philippine Peso 688,300,000.00** for the **Supply and Delivery of Transmission Line Materials and Construction of Concepcion – Clark 230kV Transmission Line Project (Sp07.CCTP.Lt-0102)** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the above project. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.
2. **TRANSCO** now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the **Supply and Delivery of Transmission Line Materials and Construction of Concepcion – Clark 230kV Transmission Line Project (Sp07.CCTP.Lt-0102).** Delivery and Installation of the GOODS is required within **300 calendar days from contract effectivity.** The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section 1B of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is open to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorship, organizations and to Foreign bidders whose country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine the bid's responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) determined after the conduct of the post-qualification evaluation.
4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from **TRANSCO** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address stated in Item 10 starting **July 23, 2007** from **8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**
5. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address stated below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of ***Philippine Peso 25,000.00.*** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
6. **TRANSCO** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **August 10, 2007, 9:00 A.M.** at *C.U. Del Rosario Function Hall B & C, Power Training Center Building, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.*
7. Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered at the venue of the bid opening stated in Item 8 on or before **9:00 A.M.** of **August 29, 2007.** All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form and in the amount specified in Section III of the Bidding Documents, BDS. Late Bids shall not be accepted.
8. Bid opening shall be held on **August 29, 2007, 9:00 A.M.** at *C.U. Del Rosario Function Hall B & C, Power Training Center Building, National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines.* Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives.
9. **TRANSCO** reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder/s.
10. Additional information shall be furnished upon request. All communications should be addressed to the BAC Secretariat at the following address:

Mr. Richard D. Nabong
Manager, Bids and Contracts Management Department (BCMD)
Ground Floor, TransCo Main Building, Power Center
National Transmission Corporation, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road
1104 Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila, PHILIPPINES
Tel. Nos.: (632) 921-2308, 981-2212, 981-2213; Telefax No: (632) 981-2308
Email address: **rdnabong@transco.ph**
http://ww.transco.ph

(Sgd.) ATTY. NOEL Z. DE LEON
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – July 21 & 29, 2007)

NOTICE AND WARNING TO THE PUBLIC

Please be informed that JMD International Corporation (formerly JMD International Trading Corporation) (the "company") has not given authority to any customs broker or entity to transact exclusively for the company.

This also serves as notice and warning to the public that any customs broker or entity who transacts in the name of the company without its expressed written authority will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

Home Guaranty Corporation
Office of the President

INVITATION TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR NEGOTIATED SALE

The Home Guaranty Corporation (HGC) is inviting interested parties to submit proposals and letters of intent to negotiate for the disposition of the property described below thru outright sale, lease, or other similar or variant schemes:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	LOCATION	TOTAL AREA
A parcel of land classified for residential use with TCT No. T-124079	Lot 2 Block 21, Talibeach Resort, Brgy. Balaytique, Nasugbu, Batangas	1,500 sq.m.

1. The disposition and sale of the property shall be on an "AS-IS-WHERE-IS" basis;
2. For outright sale proposals, terms of payment may be in cash or installment;
3. Offers for lease must indicate the proposed terms of lease including a provision for escalation of lease rates; and
4. For other similar or variant schemes, the proposed terms of sale must be indicated.

HGC reserves the right to require additional information as it deems necessary to better understand and evaluate the offer(s).

Activities	Date/Time
Submission of Letters of Intent & Issuance of Eligibility Requirements	July 30 to August 9, 2007
Pre-negotiation Conference	August 9, 2007 / 2:00 p.m.
Submission of Eligibility Requirements & Financial Proposals/Offers	August 15, 2007/2:00 p.m.

Interested parties are encouraged to inspect the property before tendering their offers.

Details pertaining to the property as well as the guidelines for the negotiation can be obtained from the HGC's Asset Management and Disposition Group (AMDG) office located at the 4th Floor of Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City from July 30 to August 9, 2007 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **P 2,500.00**.

The Financial proposals/offers shall be sealed and dropped at the designated box located at the HGC's AMDG office.

For inquiries, please call the Asset Management Department at tel. nos. 897-32-86 & 897-32-90 or visit our office at 4th Floor, Jade Building, 335 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

THE CORPORATION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL OFFERS, TO WAIVE ANY DEFECTS OR TO ACCEPT SUCH OFFER AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE CORPORATION.

(Sgd.) **RAFAEL P. DE LOS SANTOS**
Vice President
Asset Management & Disposition Group

(PDI - July 28 & 29, 2007)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
EARN UP TO
₱3,000 / DAY!!!

- WORK FROM HOME WITHOUT INTERFERING YOUR CURRENT SCHEDULE
- PART/FULL TIME
- M/F, 23-55 YRS. OLD
- WITH WORK EXPERIENCE

TEXT FULLNAME, AGE, EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND, LOCATION TO:
09184643503
FOR BRIEFING / INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"
Damaged Motor Vehicles

2006 Toyota Vios 1.3 J / ZBX-406
2003 Toyota Corolla Altis / XLH-282
2005 Isuzu Fuego 4x2 P/Up / XTV-934

For particulars, please call
Philam Ins. Co., Inc.
c/o Tristan Yoro & Arvin Calipjo
at Tel. No. 815-30-00

(PDI - July 28 & 29, 2007)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is given to the public that Ms. **SHIELA T. DE GUZMAN** is no longer connected with Datablitz Inc. as Sales Assistant effective August 31, 2006. Her termination from her service is pending before the NLRC, DOLE. Meanwhile, any transaction entered into by the above person from August 31, 2006 onward will not be honored by her former employer.

(PDI – July 29, 2007)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This is to inform the public that Charmaine Fernando, whose picture appears above, is NO LONGER connected with CJ Management Grp. effective June 4, 2007. Any transaction with or through her SHALL NOT be honored.

(PDI–July 29, 2007)

Metro Manila festivities in honor of "Ina" Our Virgin of Peñafrancia

THE METRO MANILA FESTIVITIES IN honor of "Ina", our Virgin of Peñafrancia and Patroness of the Bicol Region will be on Sept. 6 to 9. Spearheaded by the Peñafrancia Devotees Association of Metro Manila, Dr. Rosario Prieto-Felipe, a motorcade bringing the image of "Ina" will start on Thursday, Sept. 6, 2007 at 3pm from Apo Street in Mandaluyong City with a brief visit at the Mandaluyong City Hall and Mandaluyong Medical Center.

The motorcade will end at the St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Church in Bel-Air Village, Makati City, where the daily Triduum of Masses and Novena in honor of the Virgin of Peñafrancia will be held at 6 p.m. on Sept. 6, 7 and 8.

On Sept. 9, Sunday, at 12 noon, there will be a special Mass and Novena at the St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Church followed by a motorcade passing through the streets of Makati, Mandaluyong and Manila and ending at the Pasig River for the traditional Peñafrancia Fluvial Procession. Thereafter, "Ina" will then be carried on foot by an all-female procession to Manila Cathedral, where the Solemn Concelebrated High Mass will be celebrated at 6 p.m. by Bishop Nestor C. Cariño, the Spiritual Director of the Peñafrancia Devotees Association.

For inquiries, please call our Secretariat, led by Mrs. Remedios Gacer-Castelo, at Tel. Nos. 531-9430, 531-5177 and 531-8797, or through Mrs. Rosario Prieto-Felipe, M.D., President of the Peñafrancia Devotees Association, at 724-3244.

JOSE EXEQUIEL MAGSAYSAY CORPUS, JR.

peacefully joined his Creator on July 27, 2007 at the age of 59.

He is survived by his wife **Cora**; children **Trissie, Vincent** & **Leeanne**, and **Rafa**; his parents **Dr. Jose A. Corpus** (†) and **Luisa Magsaysay Corpus**; sisters **Linda Santos** and **Marilu**; brother **Angel**; and other relatives and friends who request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at The National Shrine of the Divine Child Chapel, La Salle Greenhills, Mandaluyong.

Interment will be at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."
Psalm 23:6

The Board of Directors, Officers, Employees of

CLICK LICENSING ASIA, INC.

announce with deep sorrow the demise of its Chief Finance Officer

JOSE EXEQUIEL MAGSAYSAY CORPUS, JR.

who peacefully joined his Creator on July 27, 2007 at the age of 59.

His loving family, his parents **Dr. Jose A. Corpus** (†) and **Luisa Magsaysay Corpus**; sisters **Linda Santos** and **Marilu**; brother **Angel**; and other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at The National Shrine of the Divine Child Chapel, La Salle Greenhills, Mandaluyong.

Interment will be at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque on Tuesday, July 31, 2007 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory
On the 13th Death Anniversary of

LILY DE LAS ALAS PADILLA

on July 29, 2007

The Holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered today at 12:00 NN, ALPADI, Antipolo and at the following churches:

Sacred Heart Parish, Kamuning	5:15 am
Immaculate Conception Parish, Antipolo Cathedral	6:00 am
Saints Peter & Paul Parish	6:00 am
Our Mother of Perpetual Help	6:00 am
Sta. Maria Dela Strada Parish, Katipunan Rd. Quezon City	6:00 am
St. Alphonsus Mary De Liguori Parish, Magallanes	7:00 am
St. Francis Parish	7:00 am
Sto. Domingo Church, Quezon Blvd., Quezon City	7:00 am
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Kanlaon, Quezon City	7:00 am
Sanctuario De San Jose Greenhills, Mandaluyong City	7:15 am
Sancta Maria Stella Orientis Oratory	7:45 am
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Bel-Air II, Makati City	9:00 am
Blessed Sacrament Fathers & Brothers (Sta. Cruz Church), Manila	9:30 am
San Agustin Chapel Dasmariñas Village, Makati City	10:00 am
Mary the Queen Parish, Greenhills	10:00 am
Christ the King Parish, Green Meadows, Quezon City	10:00 am
Manila Metropolitan Cathedral-Basilica	10:00 am
San Agustin Church, Intramuros Manila	10:00 am
National Shrine of the Sacred Heart, Makati City	10:15 am
St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Susana Parish, Ayala Alabang Village	11:00 am
Chapel of the Sacred Heart	11:00 am
Minor Basilica of the Black Nazarene, Quiapo, Manila	11:00 am
Parish of St. James the Great, Ayala Alabang Village	11:30 am
Parish of the Holy Sacrifice (U.P.) Diliman, Quezon City	12:00 nn
Mount Carmel Shrine, Quezon City	12:15 pm
Sanctuario de San Antonio Parish, Forbes Park	4:30 pm
St. John Mary Vianney Parish, Antipolo City	5:00 pm
Chapel of St. Thomas More (Ateneo-Rockwell)	5:15 pm
Nuestra Señora De Gracia Parish, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City	6:00 pm
St. John Bosco, Makati City	7:00 pm
Shrine of Mary, Queen of Peace (Our Lady of Edsa), Quezon City	7:30 pm
St. John the Baptist Parish, Pinaglabanan St., San Juan	8:00 pm

Her children request relatives, friends and pious readers to please remember her in their prayers.

"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."
2 Corinthians 5:8

In Loving Memory

Oscar (Oca) C. De la Cruz

of Gattaran, Cagayan and Quezon City
(August 23, 1957 – July 30, 2006)

On the occasion of the first death anniversary of Oscar (a.k.a. Oca), his family and friends will offer masses in the following parishes:

July 29, 2007, Sunday

Saint Michael, The Archangel Lapogan, Gattaran, Cagayan	9:00am
Saint Catherine's Parish Gattaran, Cagayan	6:30am
Our Lady of the Pillars Parish Cauayan, Isabela	8:00am

July 30, 2007, Monday

Our Lady of Remedies Chapel Don Enrique Heights, QC	6:00am
Holy Spirit Parish Nepomuceno St., DRBF, QC	6:00am
Saint Peter's Parish Commonwealth Avenue, QC	6:00am
Saint Peter's Cathedral Tuguegarao City, Cagayan	6:30am
Santo Domingo Church Quezon Avenue, QC	8:00am
Saint Anthony of Padua Batong Malaki, Los Baños, Laguna	6:00pm

We would like to ask the pious readers to pray for the repose of his soul.

"We never lose those we give to God"

Seventh Death Anniversary

REV. FR. ODILARDO "Efren" J. ARCEO, OSB

(November 14, 1945 – July 29, 2000)

Holy Masses for his eternal peace and happiness will be offered at the following churches today, July 29, 2007:

Our Lady of Pillar Parish, Sta. Cruz, Manila	6:00 A.M.
Benedictine Abbey Church, Mendiola, Manila	7:00 A.M.; 11:00 A.M.
St. Scholastica College Chapel, Manila	7:00 A.M.
Good Shepherd Convent, Quezon City	7:00 A.M.
Basilica of Immaculate Concepcion, Batangas City	7:00 A.M.
Chapel of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Manila	7:30 A.M.
Saint Benedict Church, Alabang Hills	7:45 A.M.; 11:00 A.M.; 6:30 P.M.
Stella Maris College Chapel, Cubao, Quezon City	8:00 A.M.
Blessed Sacrament Chapel, Novaliches, Quezon City	8:30 A.M.
Blessed Sacrament Novitiate, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan	8:30 A.M.
Nativity of the Lord Parish, Cubao, Quezon City	9:00 A.M.
Saint Mary Euphrasia Parish, Batangas City	9:00 A.M.
Cityland Townhouses Chapel, Pasig City	10:00 A.M.
St. Jude Archdiocesan Shrine, Manila	10:00 A.M.
Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Kamuning, Quezon City	10:30 A.M.
Immaculate Conception, Cathedral Parish, Cubao, Q.C.	11:00 A.M.
St. Euphrasia Church, Granada Hills, California, U.S.A.	8:15 A.M.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, California, U.S.A.	9:00 A.M.

The family requests relatives, friends and pious readers to continuously remember him in their prayers.

"Let us keep the flame of remembrance burning in our hearts."

I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. (2 Timothy4:7)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHIEF!!!

ARIEL PUYAT CARLOS

Former Senior Art Director
McCann Erickson, Philippines
7/29/59 – 7/29/02

Learning to mourn & letting go is really very hard. It's true that we don't know what we've got until we lose it, but it's also true that we don't know what we've been missing until it arrives.

He had touched so many people's lives with his kindness, generosity, warmth & love. Those attributes were shown & given by him in full measure especially to those who he thinks are less fortunate than him.

So dearly loved... so fondly remembered... so truly missed... A fun loving man who lived his life to the fullest.

On the occasion of the 5th anniversary of his rebirth to eternal life, we request all those whose hearts he had touched to join his family & relatives in prayers for his intentions.

Notify family and friends of a loved one who had just passed away.

We accept death notices, announcing details of the person's wake and interment. For a very affordable fee you can reach out to everyone who have been a part of the life of your dearly departed.

For more information, you may contact Inquirer Classifieds at (02)897 8425.

More CLASSIFIED ADS on pages...

National Transmission Corporation A25
Primestate B8

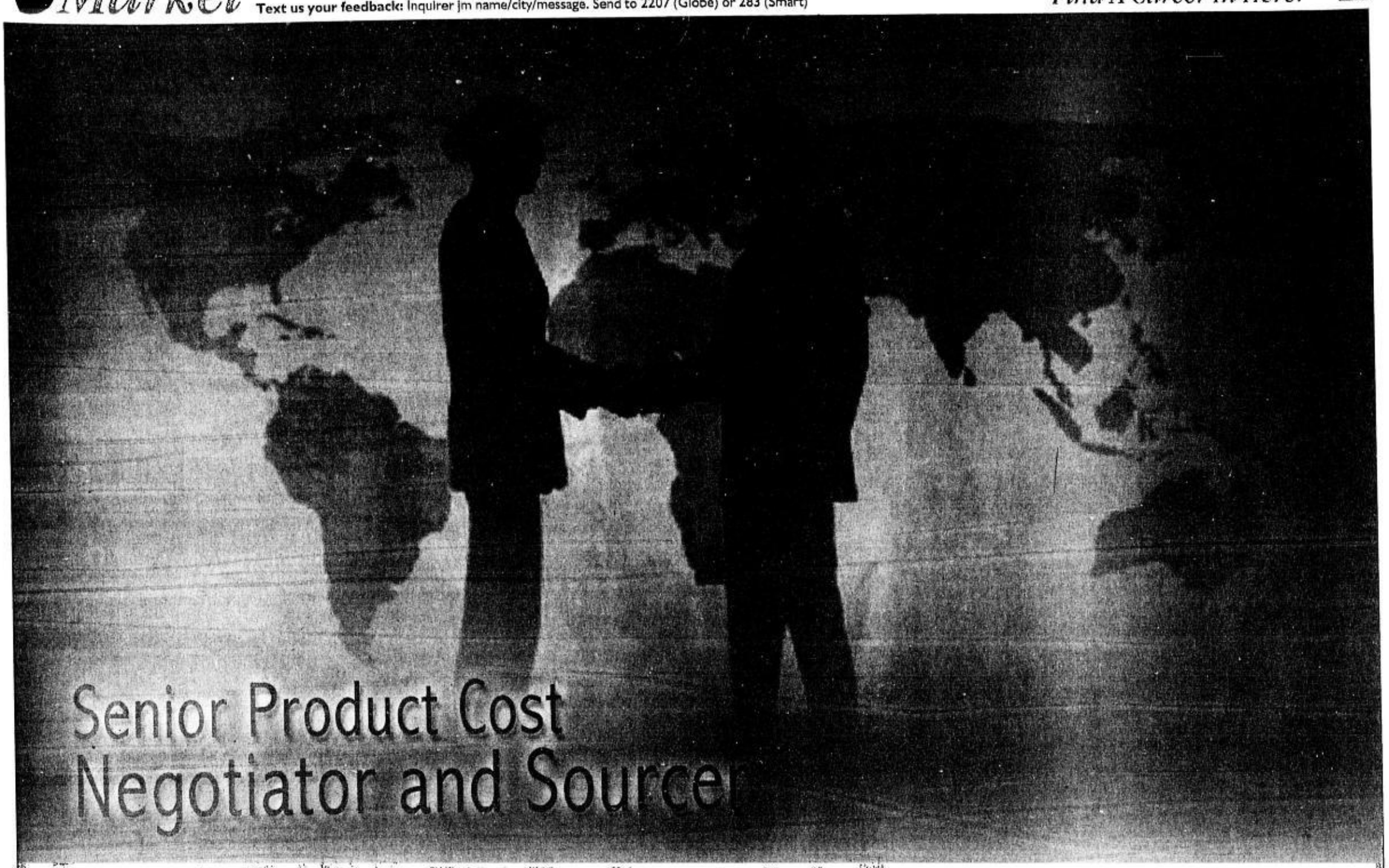
Our Dearly Beloved

PEDRO "Eddie" VISPERAS, Jr.

Peacefully passed away in the Grace of our Lord on July 14, 2007.

His bereaved wife **Elizabeth (nee Tiangco)**; children **Charina, Carlo, Michael, Monica** and **Mark**; mother, siblings, relatives and friends request the pious readers to join them in praying for the eternal repose of his soul in heaven.

Interment was held on July 21, 2007 after the Funeral Mass at the Merciful Redeemer Parish at Mississauga, Ontario.



We are looking for an experienced sourcing expert to manage $25,000,000 in direct spend. We buy hard goods and soft goods. Your job is to lower our costs by:

Obtaining better terms from current suppliers, and developing alternative supplier sources, primarily in China.

This is not an entry level position.

Contact us at (632) 637-1574 loc. 3915 & look for Cherry Pacleb, Executive Recruiter or email recruitment@branders.com

Qualifications:

A history of single-handedly reducing costs:

- Using alternative sourcing and negotiation
- Sourcing in China and in the US
- Ability to travel extensively
- Conduct negotiations
- Managed programs from sampling, through costing, QA, shipment and warehousing

This position pays very well and includes potentially substantial bonuses.

BRANDERS.COM®
The World's Largest Online Seller of Promotional Items

Winner of PPAI Web Award™ Promotional Products Assoc. Intl. 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006

30F Unionbank Plaza, Meralco Ave. corner Onyx Rd. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605

Job Opportunities

B&M Global Services Manila, Inc.

We are a young and dynamic organization providing support services to a law firm with more than 70 offices in 38 countries. Our continued growth demands the expertise of professionals. If you see yourself working as part of a global organization driven by a passion for excellence, then we would like to hear from you.

SDE Junior System Administrator

This position is responsible for full support of the Incident Management System to manage technology support incidents and ensure quality support of firm personnel.

- Bachelor's degree preferably in Computer Science
- Preferably with 1-3 years of professional experience with an IT support Help Desk / Incident Management role
- Preferably knowledgeable on the BMC - Magic/SDE application suite or any incident management tool
- General knowledge of networking concepts.
- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills
- Experience with Crystal Reports, general SQL knowledge
- Willing to work in shifts and render overtime as necessary
- Knowledge in ASP/ASP.NET will be an advantage
- ITIL Certification (Foundation) recommended but not required

Business Analyst

This position entails participating in Financial and Risk Domain projects as a business analyst. This position performs as a functional expert of assigned applications which entails detailed analysis of operational and project related tasks.

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in Business, Finance, Accounting or Computer Science Preferably with at least 1-2 years relevant experience.
- Experience in performing detailed analysis tasks
- Preferably with experience in a legal environment and business knowledge.
- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills
- Ability to translate functional issues and questions into application solutions
- Knowledge of SQL queries and MS Office Suite (especially Access, Excel, and MS Project)
- Knowledge of relational databases, especially Access & SQL Server

Junior Network Operations Center (NOC) Engineers

Responsibilities include firm-wide technical network monitoring and maintenance, basic server administration, backup management, trend analysis and reporting, setting up and reviewing current processes and procedures.

- Bachelor's degree holder in ECE, Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any IT-related course
- Fresh graduates are encouraged to apply
- Experience on network monitoring, and basic server administration and maintenance
- Must have basic knowledge in Backup management and Disaster Recovery as well as structured network environment
- Basic knowledge in TCP/IP is an advantage
- Hands on experience with Microsoft Operating Systems and back offices an advantage
- Good English communication and good teamwork skills.
- Willing to be assigned to shifts

Junior Program Coordinator (Talent Management)

This position will be supporting initiatives and programs relating to talent management. The person will primarily be assigned to support and implement the automation of the Firm's performance management process.

- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or related course
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint
- With high degree of motivation, initiative, flexibility and adaptability
- Willing to work in shifts and to render overtime if necessary
- With the ability to maintain good working relationships in a multicultural environment
- Strong coordination and organization skills

Qualified applicants may submit their cover letter, resume, 2x2 picture and other credentials to bmgsm.hr@bakernet.com by August 12, 2007. Please indicate the position you are applying for in the e-mail subject line.

B&M Global Services Manila, Inc., is a subsidiary of Baker & McKenzie International B.V., a support services provider to Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss Verein of member law firms around the world. Neither B&M Global Services Manila, Inc., nor Baker & McKenzie International B.V., is engaged in the practice of law.

"We got our lives back!"

Get your life back with Acquire Asia Pacific.

- DAYSHIFT!
- Above Industry Compensation and Benefits Package
- Premium Pay for Experience
- Limitless Opportunities for Growth

Work with dodo, the fastest growing telco in Australia. Get that dodo fever and fly high with a competitive compensation and a healthier lifestyle.

Career Opportunities:

Operations:

OUTBOUND SALES AGENTS
TEAM LEADERS
CALL CENTER DIRECTOR
QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST

Support:

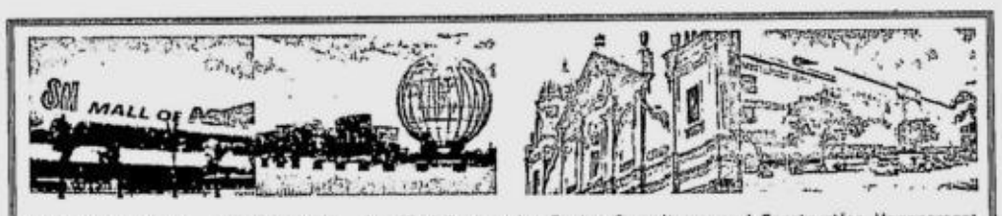
PROJECT RECRUITERS
LEADERSHIP AND DEV'T. TRAINER

Qualifications:

For Operations: At least 6 months call center experience handling international accounts
For Support: At least 1 year of experience in the same capacity.

Send your resume to:
careers.agent@acquireap.com for Agent positions
careers.nonagent@acquireap.com for Non Agent positions
or Log on to:
www.acquireasiapacific.com

ACQUIRE Asia Pacific



Our company is an ISO 9001:2000 Certified Engineering Design Consultancy and Construction Management Firm. For more than 24 years, ESCA has developed and expanded its services to meet the increasing demand of a wide range of clientele here and abroad. We take pride in taking care of our PEOPLE and using the latest TECHNOLOGY in delivering e-ENGINEERING SERVICES that are at par with the world's best.

A rewarding career with a great company. A rare opportunity to join a strong, experienced and focused team. Great culture, great projects.

BE A WORLD CLASS ENGINEER ! BE AN ESCA ENGINEER !

Set your CAREER on track!

We are in search for TOP CALIBER and PROACTIVE individuals to fill in the following positions:

CIVIL WORKS DESIGN MANAGER - Registered Professional; Knowledgeable in AutoCAD, Autodesk Land Development Desktop and/or Civil 3D; Minimum of 10 years extensive experience; Strong management, leadership and interpersonal skills; Previous experience on US projects an advantage

CIVIL WORKS DESIGN ENGINEERS - Registered Professional; Knowledgeable in AutoCAD, Autodesk Land Development Desktop and/or Civil 3D; Must have at least 2 years relevant engineering design experience; Previous experience on US projects an advantage but not necessary; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision

STRUCTURAL DESIGN ENGINEERS - Registered Professional; Knowledgeable in STAAD Pro, ETABS, STRAP and other engineering design software; Must have at least 2 years relevant engineering design experience; Experience in industrial facilities such as power plants, cement plants, refineries and precast concrete design and detailing an advantage; Previous experience on US projects an advantage but not necessary; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision; willing to be assigned anywhere

PROJECT ENGINEERS - Registered Civil Engineer; With extensive 3 to 5 years experience in Project Construction and Management; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision; Willing to be assigned anywhere

STEEL DETAILERS - BS Architecture or Civil Engineering course graduate; Knowledgeable in X Steel software; Must have at least 6 months relevant experience; Can produce structural steel fabrication outputs; Experience in industrial facilities such as power plants, cement plants, refineries and precast concrete design and detailing; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision; willing to be assigned anywhere

CADD OPERATORS - BS Architecture or Civil Engineering course graduate; Proficient in the use of AutoCAD, Architectural Desktop, 3D Studio or any engineering\architectural\mechanical software; Must have at least 2 years relevant experience; Experience on precast concrete detailing an advantage; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision; Willing to be assigned anywhere

ARCHITECTS Registered Professional; Must have at least 3 years relevant experience; Creative in conceptualization; Proficient in AutoCAD \ Microstation and other architectural software; Can prepare plans from Design to Construction; With good communication skills and can work with minimal supervision; Willing to be assigned anywhere

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS \ CIVIL ENGINEERS \ ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS FOR PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM
General Qualifications: Registered Professional; At least 1 to 2 years relevant experience; Experience in project management; Design experience an advantage but not a must; Willing to be assigned anywhere

PROGRAMMERS - Graduate of BS Computer Science or any equivalent; At least 1 year relevant experience; Proficient in C++ (.NET), ASP.NET, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Flash, PHP, CSS; Can work with minimum supervision and extended hours

We welcome fresh graduates and\or newly licensed Civil Engineers, Architects, Mechanical and Electrical Engineers who are fast learners, have a positive attitude, independent, and who are effective team players and possess the drive to succeed in a high performance environment.
TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED TO ALL SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

Successful candidates await great and rewarding employment career opportunities & a chance to travel abroad.

If you feel you have what it takes and have a passion for being with the " WORLD CLASS ", join us and be part of our winning team today. You may apply personally or send your updated resume with application letter to:

ESCA INCORPORATED
ENGINEERS • CONSULTANTS • PROJECT MANAGERS
The Human Resources Department
Ground Floor, ATC Centre, 148 Katipunan Avenue,
St. Ignatius Village, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 4371218 \ 4371219 \ 9139879 \ 9139920
Fax No. 4371217
Website: www.escaengineers.com
Email: hrd@escaengineers.com

TÜV SÜD

live large XTRA LARGE

Big news is, ICT bags another whopper. Size XL. Jumbo jet proportions. What's in it for you? Two words: "rewards" and "big". What's more, the grind stops when the sun sets. Fixed day shift. Want a piece of the action? Be a Yogo.

YOGOS WE NEED

- Must possess excellent command of oral and written English
- Must have completed at least 2 years of college education
- Must be proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Must be willing to work in a fast-paced, dynamic environment
- Customer focused, keen on details
- Previous customer service experience an advantage but not required.
- Willing to be assigned in Marikina

Be part of ICT Marikina's newest program.
Training Starts Aug. 2, 2007

Apply now at:
Ground Floor ICT Bldg. 1
Riverbanks Center, Marikina

You can also e-mail your resumés to:
yogomanila@ictgroup.com

you can also reach us through the ICT hotline:
8570305

Watch out for our third Jobfair Caravan on August 4 at the Riverbanks Center (beside Figaro) Marikina City

ICT Group
Building the future. One career at a time.

For walk-in applicants, please bring your SSS Number, TIN Number and NBI Clearance.

APAC Customer Services, Inc.

Your success begins with us.

APAC is opening exciting opportunities to more than 600 Inbound Customer Service Representatives, to be based in its Araneta Center and Alabang work sites. For starters, we provide competitive salaries commensurate to experience; night differential; performance-based incentives and rewards; meal and transportation allowances; and health and life insurance.

But more than these, we think about your future. Successful candidates can look forward to comprehensive training and development programs, aggressive advancement, and activities that ensure an enriching work environment. It's more than just a job. It's a career.

We're on the lookout for driven, analytical people with excellent oral and written communication skills, good typing skills, and computer literate. CSR applicants should have completed at least 2 years of college. *Previous customer service experience is a plus.* If you possess any of the above characteristics, please come to our OPEN HOUSE on July 30 to August 3, 2007 at APAC, Araneta Center, Cubao and APAC, Northgate Cyberzone, Alabang.

"MY DAD, MOM, SISTER NICOLE AND MYSELF WE HAD LOTS OF FUN DURING THE APAC FAMILY DAY!"

We know that what matters most is how they feel.
Live the APAC Life.

JOB OPENINGS:

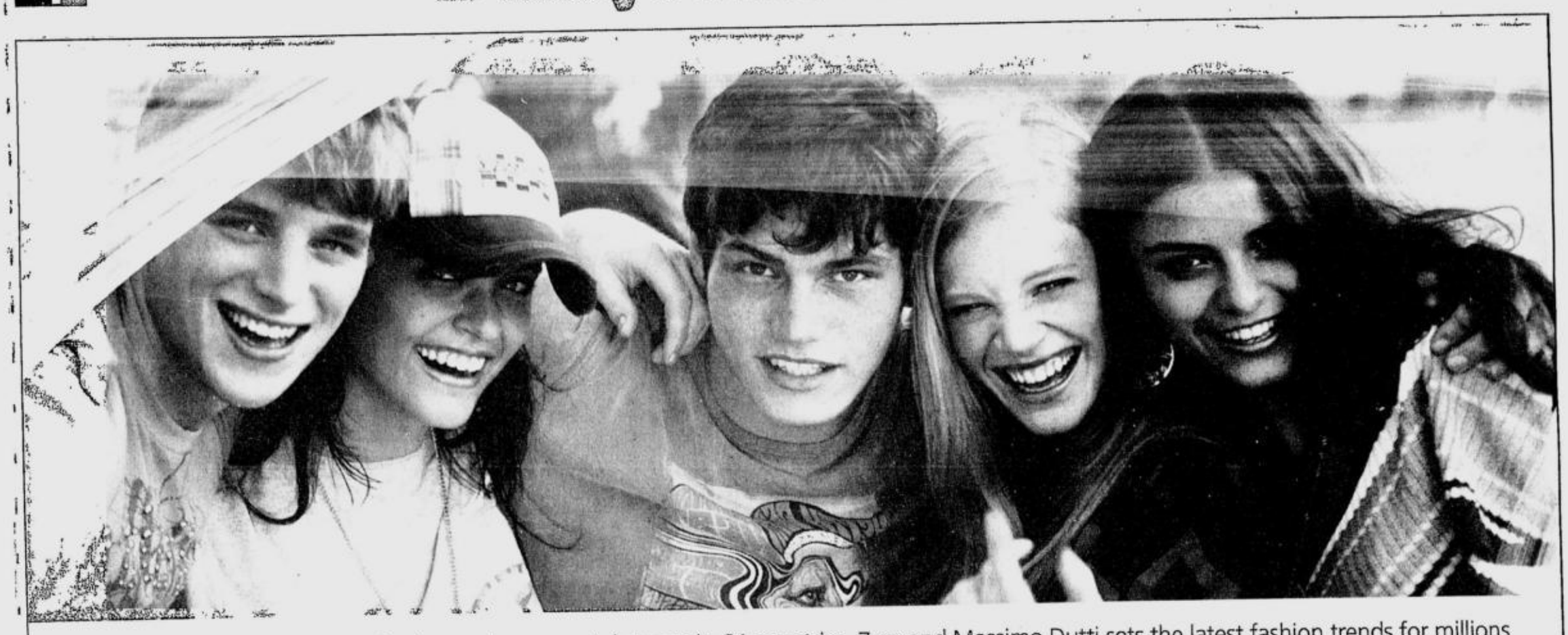
- Inbound Customer Service Representatives
- Workforce Managers
- Project Managers
- Central Quality Analysts
- Quality Manager

*Non-CSR positions are by appointment

For Cubao applicants:
Cyber Park Building 1, Araneta Center, Cubao, Quezon City
Telephone Number : 6678224

For Alabang applicants:
Plaza C, Northgate Cyberzone, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Telephone Number : 7576563

Email : recruitment@apacmail.com



With more than 1,425 stores in the most commercial streets in 64 countries, Zara and Massimo Dutti sets the latest fashion trends for millions of people. We count on professionals like you to create and transmit the excitement that this extraordinary company possesses. To cope with the brand's **worldwide expansion**, we are now recruiting for Massimo Dutti and Zara's new stores in **MACAU.**

Retail Assistants
Cashiers

We are looking for highly committed young professionals who adore fashion and thrive on the challenge of working in a high-energy business, who are willing to share our vision of creating a new concept in customer service.

Primary requirement is that candidates must have excellent communication skills, very fluent in **English** and **Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese)** as well as having a passion for customer service and products.

Qualified applicants may send via e-mail or apply personally from Monday to Friday between 8:30 to 11:00am with your recent resume, 2 x 2 picture, TOR, employment certificate and other credentials to the address below:

INTERNATIONAL SPECIALTY CONCEPTS, INC.
HR Department
5th Floor Midland Buendia Building
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City 1200 Philippines
TeleFax: (02) 899-61-89

Email address: ISCI_recruit@rgoc.com.ph

ZARA Massimo Dutti

NIHON DENKEI CO., LTD.
International Center
6F Kairaku Bldg. Soto Kanda 6-5-3
Chiyoda-ku Tokyo, Japan 101-0021
Tel: 81-3-5807-1945 • Fax: 81-3-5807-1950
URL: http://www.n-denkei.co.jp

NIHON DENKEI CO.,LTD. A distributor of Electronics and Test Measuring Instruments with 36 Domestic Offices in Japan and 25 Global Offices Worldwide covers a full range of services in the field of QA, inspection, engineering and production. With over fifty (50) years of experties, handling more than 5,000 Japanese makers, Nihon Denkei Co.,Ltd. continues to expand its Global Market with its newest office soon to operate in Manila, Philippines.

An invitation to below Position

SALES EXECUTIVE STAFF

DUTIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

Sales Executives will be responsible for the development and expansion of the market coverage of the Company. He/She will establish and maintain external relationships with both international and local clients.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Male / Female, 35 years old and below
- With Bachelor's Degree related in Business Administration, Commerce and Marketing
- With exposure in sales and trade market
- With knowledge of Japanese Language
- With excellent project management and interpersonal skills

ADMINISTRATION STAFF

DUTIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

Administration Staff will handle the overall internal operations of the Company. She will manage the administrative aspect and day-to-day business for both international and local clients.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Female, 35 years old and below
- With Bachelor's Degree related in Business Administration, Commerce and Marketing
- With exposure in sales and trade market
- With knowledge of Japanese Language

Lucrative compensation package and overseas travel exposure await successful applicants. Interested applicants may send their resume thru email at **j-cabatana@n-denkei.co.jp** & **k-koumi@n-denkei.co.jp**

WE ARE IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING!

AUTOCAD ENGINEER

- MALE/ FEMALE, NOT MORE THAN 40 YEARS OLD.
- BS CIVIL ENGINEERING or ARCHITECTURE GRADUATE.
- EXPERIENCED IN AUTOCAD ESTIMATING WORKS.
- CAN PREPARE WORKING DRAWINGS NEEDED FOR PROJECT SITES
- JOB ASSIGNMENT WILL BE BASED IN ORTIGAS M. MLA.

WAREHOUSEMAN

- MALE, NOT MORE THAN 40 YEARS OLD.
- GRADUATE OF ANY FOUR YEAR COURSE.
- WORK EXPERIENCE IN HANDLING STOCKS AND WAREHOUSING.
- JOB ASSIGNMENT WILL BE BASED IN SAN FELIX, STO. TOMAS BATANGAS.
- APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION MUST APPLY AT DYD PRODUCTION PLANT IN BRGY SAN FELIX STO. TOMAS BATANGAS

interested applicants for the autocad post must apply at:

DYD REFRIGERATIONS INC.
3rd floor City Center building 338 Ortigas Avenue Greenhills
San Juan Metro Manila
dyd@dyd.com.ph

TEACH IN THE OUTDOORS

If you're 35 y.o. or below join our corps of outbound educators. Teach along the river, falls, mountains and even the reef. Best of all it's a part time job that pays well.

Orientation will be on August 8, 2007 UP Diliman, UP Hotel 5:00 pm. Bring resumé and 2x2 picture. For details call 9327818 up to 19 loc. 804 Globe 09166353967 Smart 09195345642

www.outboundeducation.com

WANTED
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
COLEGIO DE STA. MONICA
No. 98 Marcos Alvarez Ave., Talon Uno, Las Piñas City
800-8334 / 802-2277
802-4433 to 34

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.

JOB Market

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

---

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture
Quedan and Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation
http://www.quedancor.gov.ph

is urgently in need of

ACCOUNTING GRADUATES & CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

22-35 years old, with or without experience in a financial institution

Applicants may submit their resumé with 2x2 ID photo, Transcript of Records and Report of Rating in Board Exam at 3/F Estuar Bldg., 880 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City or email: **mknserrano@yahoo.com** or **msc_calderon@yahoo.com**
Tel./Fax number: **(02) 374-8201 / 374-8417**

Senior Architects

should have at least 10 years work experience in Design and Detailing, Working Drawings Production, Project Management and Coordination. Our firm requires proficiency in AutoCad Release 2006. Knowledge in 3D Studio Max and Autodesk Viz Presentation Rendering is a plus as well as Specifications Writing.

Please submit your resume with signature, 2"x 2" photo and references to:

EA Miñana & Associates
Architects
Through Ms. Annie Vicente
Unit 2616 Citylnnd 10, Tower 1,
6815 HV de la Costa St. Makati City.
or by email to e_a_minana@pldsl.net

Selected applicants will be scheduled for an interview.

PDM Philippines Industries Inc.

PDM Philippines Industries, Inc. is a multinational company engaged in the manufacture of cigarette paper & other tobacco-related papers.
Our principal company is Schweitzer-Mauduit Int'l., Inc. which is listed in the New York Stock Exchange under SWM.
It is the world's largest supplier of tobacco-related papers.
Its website may be visited at **http://schweitzer-mauduit.com.**

MECHANICAL TEAM LEADER
(Job Number: 203001)
- Licensed Mechanical Engineer (PME is an advantage)
- Minimum experience in mechanical engineering maintenance of at least five (5) years.
- Experience in paper manufacturing is an advantage.
- Familiarity in Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM) application.
- Knowledge in CMMS software is an advantage.
- With excellent communication skills.

ASSET/SHOP MECHANICS
(Job Number: 203002)
- Mechanical Engineering/ Technology graduate.
- Minimum experience of three years in preventive maintenance work.
- Experience in the paper manufacturing industry is an advantage.
- Knowledge in basic computer applications.
- With excellent communication skills

SHIFT ELECTRICAL AND INSTRUMENTATION ENGINEERS
(Job Number: 203003)
- Electrical Engineering/ Electronics & Communications Engineering graduate.
- Minimum experience of three years in electrical and electronics control in paper manufacturing industry.
- Knowledge in PLC and drives is a must.
- With excellent communication skills.

PROCESS ENGINEERS
(Job Number: 207001)
- Licensed Chemical Engineer.
- Experience in paper manufacturing is an advantage.
- Familiarity in SPC and ISO is an advantage.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communication skills.

PROCESS TECHNICIANS
(Job Number: 207002)
- Chemical Engineering/ Technology graduate.
- Experience in paper-making or related processes is an advantage.
- Experience in laboratory operations.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communications skills.

QUALITY INSPECTORS
(Job Number: 202001)
- Chemical Engineering/ Technology graduate.
- Experience in laboratory testing and operations for paper products and materials is an advantage.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communication skills.

HUMAN RESOURCE ASST.
(Job Number: 904001)
- Graduate of BS Psychology / Behavioral Science or related degree
- Experience in human resource functions is an advantage.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems applications.

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
(Job Number: 902001)
- Accounting graduate preferably a CPA.
- Experience in accounting functions is an advantage.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems applications.
- Excellent communication skills.

PAPER MACHINE OPERATORS
(Job Number: 101001)
- Technology Course graduate (preferably Mechanical Technology).
- Experience in paper machine is an advantage.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communication skills.

CONVERTING MACHINE OPERATORS
(Job Number: 103001)
- Technology Course graduate (preferably Mechanical Technology).
- Experience in converting machine is an advantage.
- Trouble-shooting knowledge in slitter and/or converting machine.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communication skills.

PRINTING MACHINE OPERATORS
(Job Number: 103002)
- Technology Course graduate (preferably Mechanical Technology).
- Experience in printing machine (rotogravure) is an advantage.
- Trouble-shooting knowledge in printing machine.
- Knowledge in basic computer systems application.
- With good communication skills.

BUYER
(Job Number: 206001)
- College graduate.
- Procurement experience of at least three years.
- Knowledge in importation procedures.
- With excellent communication and negotiation skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft applications.

FORKLIFT OPERATORS
(Job Number: 206002)
- Must be at least high school graduate.
- Experience in forklift operations and maintenance of at least five years.
- Must possess professional driver's license.
- Experience in warehousing operations is an advantage.

Interested parties must apply in person at:

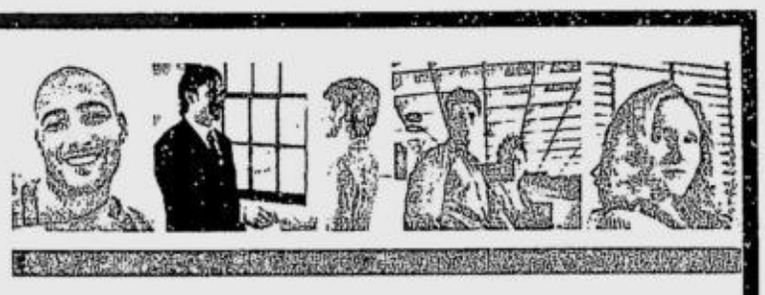
***PDM Philippines* Industries, Inc.**

Maharlika Drive, United San Pedro Subdivision
San Pedro, Laguna

on July 30 to August 3, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Telephone Number 808-0808.

Applicants must submit their resumé and 2 copies of 2x2 photos.
We will not entertain applicants with incomplete requirements.

SM DEPARTMENT STORE TAYTAY



SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

Plans, controls and directs selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

QUALIFICATIONS
- male/female; not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, fastfood/restaurant chains or in sales in the same capacity
- ability to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

COUNTER MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

Handles cashiering operations, cash transactions and over-all supervision of personnel in the department.

QUALIFICATIONS
- female; not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in bank operations or counter-cashier functions and familiar with credit card transactions

CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISOR

Plans, coordinates, controls and directs customer service operations and functions in the assigned branch

QUALIFICATIONS
- female; not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year Business course
- with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing and able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR

Plans, controls and directs activities related to warehouse operations / functions

QUALIFICATIONS
- male; not over 32 years old
- graduate of any four-year business course
- with extensive experience in all aspects of warehouse operations in a retail business
- able to lead, motivate and foster teamwork in the department

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM at

RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
Building D, SM Corporate Office SM Central Business Park, Bay City, Pasay City

or email us at

Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

(Please bring comprehensive resume, 2 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background, SSS Number / SSS Employment History printout plus original and photocopy of Transcript of Records and Diploma)

Do you have FREE TIME?

THE PART TIME PROGRAM IS OPEN TO :
- **Students/Out of school youth (at least completed 2 years of college education)**
- **Employees (e.g., Teachers, Secretaries, Account Executives) within the vicinity of Qinteraction**
- **Housewives and Overseas workers.**

REQUIREMENTS :
1. **Good English Communication skills**
2. **Computer literate**
3. **Attentive to details**
4. **Energetic, adaptable, resilient and can tolerate stress.**
5. **Willing to work from 8pm-1am**

Visit us Monday – Friday, 7am-4pm at the *8th floor BPI Buendia Center Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, 1200* Or send your resumes at HR@Qinteraction.com - www.Qinteraction.com

FULL-TIME CSR positions are also available.

Qinteraction Quality Interaction is a division of RAINMAKER®

Reach more qualified applicants. Advertise in JobMarket Libre
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

We are a multinational company engaged in distribution and marketing of consumer and household products, in urgent need of the following positions:

1. **KEY ACCOUNT SPECIALIST (VACANCY CODE: HR01)**
   Qualifications:
   a. 2-3 years experience in managing chain supermarket with high analytical capability, fast learner and can work with minimum supervision.
   b. Ability to manage key account activities/operations, which include the following key result areas: management of accounts receivable, achievement of sales objectives , maintaining service levels, and inventory management.
   c. Strong leadership and interpersonal skills
   d. Good oral and written English communication
   e. Minimum non-professional driver's license

2. **SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (VACANCY CODE:HR02)**
   Qualifications:
   a. CPA is a must
   b. At lest 3-5 years solid experience preferably in FMCG or distribution company and background in accounting supervisory position involving general accounting, preparation and presentation of financial statements.
   c. Responsible for the preparation of the monthly financial statements and in ensuring compliance with the different requirements like BIR, SSS, HDMF, Philhealth, DTI and local governments.
   d. Highly computer literate and knowledgeable in SAP is an advantage
   e. Result-oriented, highly motivated and has a strong leadership skills

3. **HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER (VACANCY CODE: HR03)**
   Qualifications:
   a. Degree in Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Human Resource Management or its equivalent.
   b. At least 2-3 years experience in all facets of HR.
   c. Highly analytical and can work under pressure

4. **ORDER MANAGEMENT OFFICER (VACANCY CODE: HR04)**
   Qualifications:
   a. Degree in Bachelor of Science in Accountancy
   b. At least 2 years experience in the same capacity
   c. Familiar with SAP(Systems Application Program) is an advantage
   d. Responsible for processing of Sales Order and Invoicing
   e. Can work with minimum supervision, above average analytical capability, fast learner, team player, good communication and documentation skills and can work long hours if needed.

5. **TRADE MARKETING OFFICER (VACANCY CODE: HR05)**
   Qualifications:
   a. Degree in Bachelor of Science in Marketing or its equivalent
   b. Minimum 2-5 years working experience in Trade Marketing or Key Account
   c. Good command of English
   d. Responsible to execute below the line promotion activities

6. **SALES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (VACANCY CODE: HR06)**
   Qualifications:
   a. Fresh graduate from any reputable university or work related experience is an advantage but not required
   b. Analytical; needs to have a high feeling of responsibility, a logical way of thinking and a good organization
   c. With strong leadership skills

7. **IT OFFICER (VACANCY CODE: HR07)**
   Qualifications:
   a. Degree in Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Information Technology or its equivalent
   b. At least 2-3 years experience in IT, preferably in the development and/or programming capacity
   c. Knowledgeable in Linux Operations
   d. With technical competencies in MS Windows XP, Microsoft Server 2003, Microsoft Office, Anti-Virus Software and other general application software, mastering Visual Basic Programming, familiar with SAP and knowledge of LAN.
   e. Can work with minimum supervision, above average analytical capability, fast learner, team player, good communication and documentation skills and can work long hours, if needed.

Interested applicants should email their application letter indicating the vacancy code and resume at **hro_recruitment@yahoo.com.ph** on or before August 15, 2007.

PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY HEALTH
Implemented by
Chemonics International Inc

(1) Human Resource Manager

Background:

The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*, focusing on three components: 1) increased **workplace** support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass **market** brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among **private practice** providers.

The Human Resources Manager will be responsible for the human resources services to include recruitment and hiring and staff development, policy manual updates and enforcement, employee performance evaluation, salaries and benefits administration, and maintenance of personnel files.

Specific Tasks:
The Human Resources Manager will be responsible for undertaking the following tasks and responsibilities in a professional manner.

On Recruitment
- Prepares job announcement for vacant posts, and advertise them in major local dailies.
- Handles recruitment process of personnel for project requirements.
- Handles salary offer and negotiation of qualified applicants based on competitive recruitment process.
- Prepare technical concurrence memo for long-term professional technical staff and assure submission to PRISM's Cognizant Technical Officer prior to the employment of the latter.

On Staff Development
- Conduct and identify training needs of employees, prepares training plan and implement training programs.
- Facilitates coordination and seeks approval the home office of staff training requests.
- Leads in identifying and negotiating third party provider on training programs.

Performance and Compensation Management
- Facilitate job analysis, job evaluation, job design, salary and wage administration.
- Manage benchmarking or market sensing on competitors in terms of competitiveness of salary and benefits package, and new trends in enhancing compensation program.
- Perform manpower review to ensure organizational health in areas relating to personnel/overhead cost, work and work relations.
- Administer employee benefits such as health and insurance coverage.
- Initiate the conduct of employee annual performance evaluation.
- Monitor and enforce employee compliance to company policies and procedures
- Prepares modification memoranda to reflect revisions on the policy manual
- Provide career guidance counseling to employees for possible movements within the organization.

Employee Relations
- Spearheads in the development of employee engagement programs
- Handles employee grievance
- Leads in conducting administrative investigation on personnel conduct
- Coordinates with lawyers on legal issues

Administrative
- Maintain and updates personnel files (short and long term professionals) to include contract preparation and modification
- Prepares regular report on recruitment, turnover, promotion, transfer, demotion, termination of project employees.
- Undertakes other duties assigned by the Director of Project Support or his designee or independently which are consistent with their qualifications, the Scope of Work and the general requirements of PRISM.

Reporting:
The Human Resources Manager will report directly to the Director for Project Support who will be responsible for monitoring the HR Manager's overall performance.

Qualifications:
- Minimum of 10 years experience in human resource management and development
- Preferably with post graduate degree in management, human resources or other related fields
- Hardworking, objective, and goal oriented
- Strong interpersonal skills, (e.g. tact, diplomacy and patience)
- Familiarity with Philippine Labor Laws
- Excellent written and verbal communications
- Proficient in MS Tools

Interested applicants should e-mail their application letter and CV at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before August 15, 2007. Please indicate the "**Position Code: HRM**" as subject in the email.

SECRETARY

- Female, 22-28 years old; preferably U.P. graduate
- Proficient in English (excellent grammar and proofreading skills).
- Computer proficient in word processing, spreadsheets, presentation tools and Internet.
- Excellent communication skills. Organized and results oriented.

Email: ur.fortress@gmail.com

WANTED TWO (2) ACCOUNTANTS

- 1 MALE
- 1 FEMALE
- Preferably CPA w/ 2 years experience
- Single, can work w/ minimum supervision
- Computer literate

APPLY IN PERSON AT:

FUNCTIONAL INC.
814 J.P. Rizal Street, Makati City
or Email your resumé at:
finance@functional.com.ph

CARUNUNGAN & PARTNERS

we are in search for an architectural design team composed of dynamic, talented & energetic individuals to join us:

ARCH'L. COMPUTER RENDERER

- 3D Studio
- Sketch Up
- Vis

CADD OPERATORS

- **B.S. Architecture graduate**
- **2 years min. experience**
- **design ability / contract documents**

Attractive salary package with full benefits
Applicants should personally deliver their resumé with their sample of works to:
11 Sunrise Dr., Cubao, Q.C. (along Santolan Rd.)
Tel. 725-8935 ; 725-8922; 413-2218

HIRING FOR OUR LAS PIÑAS OFFICE

ACCOUNTING CLERK / HR & ADMIN ASSISTANT

Female, good written & oral communication skills, college graduate of related course, pleasing personality, computer literate, with relevant working experience, hardworking, can work with minimum supervision

SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES / SALES COORDINATOR

M/F, college graduate, pleasing personality, with sales & marketing experience preferably in computer, printer & consumable business. Very good communication skills, hardworking, self-driven, goal oriented

COMPUTER & PRINTER TECHNICIAN

Male, good communication skills, preferably with professional driver's license, good scholastic record, with experience & special training preferred, hardworking, good work attitude.

Please email your resumé with photo to:
bmbanton@jmdintl.com
or you may personally hand carry your resumé to:
JMD Jose Bldg., #8 J. Aguilar Ave., Las Piñas City

PBSP
Philippine Business for Social Progress

Business Empowering the Poor
In the face of poverty, we see endless opportunities for growth

We are among the country's leading corporate-led social development foundations. Through the years, our job has meant more than just its pay. If you believe that you can make a difference in other people's lives, we invite you to fill in:

FINANCE OFFICER
(Training and Consulting Group, TB-LINC Project)

The Tasks
Ensures that the TB LINC project complies with all PBSP finance and administrative policies and procedures. Reports to the Deputy Project Administration and Finance Unit (PAFU) Team Leader.

The Requirements
Interested applicants must hold a college degree in accounting or any related field. He/she must have at least 2 years experience in General Accounting and preferably in handling financial accounts of USAID-sponsored programs and other foreign-assisted projects. He/she must be computer literate and possess good analytical, and communication skills.

Please forward your resumé and transcript of records to:

THE HRD MANAGER
Philippine Business for Social Progress
Philippine Social Development Center, Magallanes
cor. Real Sts., Intramuros, Manila
Tel.: 527-7741 to 51 • Fax: 527-3743
Email: hrd@pbsp.org.ph • Website: www.pbsp.org.ph

JUNIOR ARCHITECT

- Licensed
- Male or Female preferably below 30 years old.
- Can operate AutoCad Software, Photoshop and/or other related softwares for project presentation.
- Willing to do field work all over Luzon and Visayas.
- Must be able to prepare reports related to project management.
- Can prepare Project Proposals, Cost Estimates and Project Recommendation.
- Has the ability to do Project Supervision.

Email your application letter and Resumé with 2"x2" I.D. picture on or before August 15, 2007

jr_arki2007@yahoo.com

MANAGING DIRECTOR

SEEDFINANCE Corporation provides wholesale loans and technical assistance to local cooperatives, rural banks, and NGOs to support their **microfinance operations.**

We currently need a **MANAGING DIRECTOR** who shall be responsible for the day-to-day activities of the organization. He/she will be in charge of: the overall management of the wholesale lending operations; implementation of business/strategic plans; development and implementation of operational and administrative policies and procedures; fund-sourcing and investment generation; leadership and personnel management; board and other stakeholders relations; corporate planning and marketing.

To qualify, the candidate must possess the following: strong banking and/or finance background; extensive experience in microfinance, retail or wholesale; working knowledge of human resource administration, marketing and corporate planning; social development orientation; and honesty, integrity, and dignity in work.

He/she must be: 35 years old or older; a servant leader committed to democratic and participatory management; a Filipino citizen; ready to be based in Metro Manila and willing to travel extensively.

The salary for this position shall be PhP50,000 (negotiable).

Please send your application and resume by post or courier to SEEDFINANCE Corporation, Suite 49 PARC House Bldg., 227 EDSA Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, 1556, via email to new_sfmd@yahoo.com, or fax to telefax 02-7264258. Deadline for applications is on August 20, 2007. All applications will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted.

A TOP 300 FILIPINO OWNED COMPANY with business interests in shipping, manufacturing, logistics, agri-business, mining and real estate is in need of the following:

BUSINESS ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Management, Economics, or Marketing from a prestigious university
- Highly analytical
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

Responsibilities:
- To assist senior management in monitoring and analysis of operating results
- Conduct research and other business development functions

Submit resumé to: **OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**
ESL Building, Bonifacio Drive, Anda Circle, Port Area, Manila
Fax (02) 5273006 / 5273017 • Email: dane4658@yahoo.com

ALL JOBSEEKERS FROM SPRINGFIELD TO MANILA ARE INVITED TO THE...

THE SUMMIT OF TODAY'S

vxi

mychema
GREENBELT 3

4th Level, Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati City
on JULY 31 to AUGUST 1, 2007 10AM to 7PM

Your RESUME is your entry-pass!
SHORT-LISTED APPLICANTS get to view a BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE...FREE!
Plus: FOOD, DRINKS AND GIVEAWAYS

We are searching for SUCCESS-DRIVEN CALL CENTER PROFESSIONALS for

CALL CENTER REPRESENTATIVES

Inbound Customer Service and Sales, Financial Services, Level 1 Technical Support

EARN AS MUCH AS P30,000++ MONTHLY!

OTHER POSITIONS OPEN:
Client Relations Manager, HR Specialist & Associates, Product Trainers, Recruitment Specialist / Associate, Applications Developer, Telcoms Engineer, Systems Engineer, Real-time Analysts, Female Nurse

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE!

vxi
VISION-X INC.

Makati City
15th Floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue

Quezon City
1024 Global Trade Center Building, Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue (EDSA)

Monday to Friday, 7AM to 3PM

www.vxi.com
Email: careersph@vxi.com
Ad BLOG: www.vxi-ads.blogspot.com

nunhems

Nunhems, one of the largest global vegetable seed company is active in Research, Plant Breeding, Production, Processing, Marketing and Sales of vegetable varieties for the world market. The company is a subsidiary of Bayer AG and has its headquarters in The Netherlands. It has offices in almost all major parts of the world and employs more than 1000 highly qualified and motivated employees in more than 20 countries.

Our Asia Pacific division focuses on the development of unique varieties and markets in the region to meet the current and future demands of our customers.

We are looking for ambitious, qualified go-getters for the following positions:

Sales & Product Development Specialist

Job purpose
- Introduce, trial, coordinate and evaluate new varieties and realize sales of the same within an international environment for long-term profitability and partnership with customers.

Major Functions
- Design, coordinate, execute and analyze reliable and international trial programs.
- Provide technical support to Nunhems customers.
- Introduce the company and products to international customers
- Execute sales planning in the region.
- Formulate and negotiate with customers about annual contracts, prices, and sales terms in order to realize the sales targets and collections.

Skills, Experience & Qualifications
- Bachelor's degree in agriculture;
- Minimum 2 years experience in a comparable position in agrochemical/seed business.
- Fluency in English language
- Good Inter-personal skills
- Innovative and Proactive
- International travelling, 40% of working time.

Our offer
The company offers interesting and demanding positions in an innovative and growing atmosphere. The working climate is informal, result and quality driven. We offer a competitive salary and excellent fringe benefits. You will work from a Bayer/Nunhems location in Manila.

Application
If your profile matches with our requirements, you are invited to send your application with a detailed CV not later than 10th of August 2007 to Human Resources by e-mail to cristina.malabanan@bayercropscience.com. For more information see the Nunhems website www.nunhems.com

nunhems

RENDITIONDIGITAL

RENDITIONDIGITAL INC. is a provider of cost-effective software development and Digital Content Solutions to a wide range of clients in the business application, telecommunications, electronics and digital media markets.

We offer our clients high-quality solutions with the best economics today through a combination of European and North American front-end account management and our back-end Manila-based development environment. Our global solutions provide the best and most effective way to serve our customers requirements.

RenditionDigital is headquartered in Dublin, Ireland. Our development and operations facilities are based in Manila, Phlippines. In addition, we have client management, support and sales offices in the US and Europe.

RenditionDigital offers a highly attractive compensation and benefits scheme including pay for performance incentives for all our employees. If you believe you have what it takes to become part of RenditionDigital's dynamic and multi-cultural workforce, we invite you to visit our website at www.renditiondigital.com.

You may refer to the Careers section of our website for details.

Interested applicants are invited to either send a soft copy of their CVs to: humanresources@renditiondigital.com or mail their comprehensive resume to: **Human Resource Department 15th Floor Multinational Bancorp Center, 6805 Ayala Avenue, Makati City**

WWW.RENDITIONDIGITAL.COM

ART DIRECTOR

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Bachelor/College Degree in Graphic Design, Fine Arts or other related courses
- At least 4-5 years experience as Art Director
- Experienced in creating and designing on-line materials
- A strong motivational & customer-oriented team leader
- Good in communicating, problem solving, brainstorming and visual organization
- Ability to handle multiple projects and meet deadlines
- Knowledge of different design software
- Well rounded team leader, having exceptional design experience and sensible to illustration, photography, typography and layout in different media
- Experienced in formulating concepts and supervising employees in executing layout designs for art work
- Experienced in creating and preparing storyboard according to the client needs and specifications

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Bachelor/College Degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science, Human Resource Management or equivalent
- At least three (3) years of working experience in the related field is required for this position
- Preferably with two years of experience in designing, facilitating and evaluating training programs
- Has a comprehensive understanding of Adult Learning Styles when creating learning materials in a multi-faceted training environment
- Experience in developing modules and OD training is a plus
- Must have excellent communication and platform skills

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

JOB Market

VISIT US AT **www.jobmarketonline.com**

For your Classified and Obituary Ads please call:

☎637-2008

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph.

JOBMARKETupdates

Text us your feedback: Inquirer WP name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

INTERLINK MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT AND GENERAL SERVICES, INC. CELEBRATES 8TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY.

Shown are the Financial Investment Guru - Prof. Nanding Gaite, Philippine National Red Cross QC Chapter Chair Dr. Edna Azurin; Quezon City Chamber of Commerce Board of Director, Ronaldo Yap; President of Interlink & hotel consultant, Rafael S. Chico; from the office of Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte and Cultural Tourism Affairs Office, Lawyer Vicky Loanzon; and Mrs. Gaite.

CHINESE FILIPINO BUSINESS CLUB DONATION.

CFBCI donates P500,000 for medical treatment of indigent residents in city of Manila. The officers and members of the Chinese Filipino Business Club, Inc., led by its president George S. Lee, a check donation amounting to P500,000 to Mayor Alfredo S. Lim in the Office of the Mayor, City of Manila, to support the medical treatment of the indigent residents in Manila. This amount shall be allocated proportionately to Ospital ng Maynila, Ospital ng Gat Andres, Ospital ng Tondo, Ospital ng Sampaloc, and the Municipal Health Bureau of Manila. Present during the ceremony were CFBCI officers namely President Emeritus Daniel Y. Laogan, President George S. Lee, Executive Vice-President Siy Yap Chua, Vice-President Lino H. Uy, Vice-President Cristino Lim, Vice-President Roman T. Yap, Vice-President Johnny Chua, Vice-President Tomas T. Ang, Treasurer Joseph Co, Director Joseph Siahetiong, Director Nolly M. Ty, Chairman of Assets Committee Vicente Uy Han Huy and Secretary-General Cynthia Go.

POWERMAX CONSULTING GROUP INC proudly presents:

ACCELERATED SELLING

The Complete Guide to Selling More In Less Time

JULY 31 AUGUST 2, 1:00 5:00pm HOLIDAY INN GALLERIA

This comprehensive sales training program will give you the sales champion's mindset and will help you master the sales process from start to finish. The program is designed under an accelerated learning framework, giving you sales training that "sticks" and the power to translate learning into action immediately.

SPEAKER JOHN CALUB

John Calub has trained and coached more than 10,000 people across the country in the areas of sales and peak performance. He has produced several success stories in the field of professional selling.

DAY 1: THE PRINCIPLES OF SALES SUCCESS
- Understanding the inner game of selling
- The technology of goal-setting and goal achievement
- The paradigms of top sales performers
- Techniques to change your belief system
- Releasing the destructive emotions of turn-downs and rejection
- Time-honored principles for magnetically attracting more clients

DAY 2: MASTERING THE 5 KEY STEPS OF THE SALES PROCESS
- Million-peso prospecting
- Connecting and Building Instant Rapport with Prospects
- How To Make a Template of Ideal Prospects
- Presenting with Pizzaz
- Words that change minds

DAY 3: GETTING THEM TO SAY YES
- 39 Power Closing Techniques

"INCREASE YOUR SALES & INCOME.. HAVE MORE TIME TO DO WHAT YOU WANT."

SEMINAR INVESTMENT

Regular Rate - Php4,485.00 + VAT (Until July 17)
Early Bird Rate - Php3,995.00 + VAT (Starting July 18)
* Seminar investment is inclusive of snacks, handouts and car pass.

This Event is Sponsored by: INQUIRER, Vacation Club International, JOB Market, CROWNE PLAZA, citibank, LLOYDLUNA

CALL US NOW FOR INQUIRIES AND RESERVATION:

POWERMAX CONSULTING GROUP INC. Tel.: 687-9014 • 687-5748

LOOK FOR LENI OR TEXT/CALL 0915-9882642

JOBMARKET TRAINING NAVIGATOR

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	For Inquiries
Building a Dynamic Enterprise Through OD	July 30-31 8:30a.m.-5p.m.	PMAP Center	Mira Jakosalem @ 726-1532/81/88 mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph
Brand Customer Services	Aug. 2-3 8:30a.m.-5p.m.	PMAP Center	Mira Jakosalem @ 726-1532/81/88 mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph
Time Management	Aug. 7 1-5p.m.	PMAP Center	Luanne dela Cruz @ 726-1532/81/88 luanne.delacruz@pmap.org.ph
Pro-active Labor Relations In a Non-Unionized Setting	Aug. 8 8:30a.m.-5p.m.	Dusit Hotel Makati City	Ecop Training and Development Dept 0920-4526428, 890-4847 or 899-0411 training@ecop.org.ph/joey.molina@ecop.org.ph
New Generation OD Tools	Aug. 9 1-5p.m.	EDSA Shangri-La	Luanne dela Cruz @ 726-1532/81/88 luanne.delacruz@pmap.org.ph
Competency Career Development Workshop	Aug. 14-15	PMAP Center	Mira Jakosalem @ 726-1532/81/88 mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph
Recruitment and Placement of Workers	Aug. 28	PMAP Center	Mira Jakosalem @ 726-1532/81/88 mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph
Tax Amnesty	Aug. 29 1-5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Galleria	Powermax Consulting Group 687-9014 or 687-5748 • Look for Leni
Proactive Supervision and Leadership	Aug. 30 1-5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Galleria	Powermax Consulting Group 687-9014 or 687-5748 • Look for Leni
Repeat Business	Aug. 31 1-5 p.m.	Holiday Inn Galleria	Powermax Consulting Group 687-9014 or 687-5748 • Look for Leni
Enhancing HR's Strategic Role	Sept. 4-5 8:30a.m.-5p.m.	EDSA Shangri-La	Luanne dela Cruz @ 726-1532/81/88 luanne.delacruz@pmap.org.ph

DOLE assumes jurisdiction over manpower cooperatives

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYment recently issued Circular No. 01-07 "Clarifying the Applicability of DO-18-02 series of 2002 to Cooperatives." The Philippine Association of Local Service Contractors has invited Dole officials to explain the circular and legal authorities to be the reactors. This forum will be held on Aug.16, Thursday, 1-5 p.m at the Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City. For reservations and more information, please call the PALSCON secretariat at telephone number 534 0035.

Job evaluation, salary structure design workshop

MAGNITUDE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT announces its upcoming seminar-workshop entitled "Job Evaluation and Salary Structure Design" on Aug. 30 and 31 at the Century Park Hotel, P. Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila. This 2-day training promises a wealth of information in the field of compensation management for Human Resource practitioners, finance managers, professionals and entrepreneurs. Rafael Z. Perfecto, a well-known speaker in compensation management will conduct the seminar. Perfecto is a former director of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines, a Fellow in Personnel Management, and currently a consultant for top multinational companies. Topics for this seminar include Job Analysis, Job Description Writing, Job Rating Plan, Use of Salary Ranges, Salary Survey Analysis, and Salary Structure Design. To register, please call 0917-890-9595, (02) 806-3370 or email magnitudehrd@yahoo.com. Early registration discount applies.

Managing non-mainstream unions

THE WORKERS' RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION is guaranteed by the Constitution and the Labor Code. The law recognizes the need to empower workers by providing them socio-economic and legal protection and thus allow for the formation of labor organizations. The purposes of such are to bargain collectively and to deal with employers on issues regarding the terms and conditions of employment. A labor organization, as a legitimate labor relations mechanism, hence, stands to address employer-employee concerns and to negotiate for better and safe work conditions towards sustaining harmonious labor-management relations. But how do you deal with situations when labor organizations get infiltrated with radical elements? How should your company manage difficult, and at times unlawful, forces? Is there a way around or is there a way out? These questions and other issues will be dealt with in a seminar which the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) is conducting on Aug. 1, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at Dusit Hotel, Makati City.

This one-day seminar will delve into the workings of militant labor and provide critical information and hints that tell you when they are slowly crouching in so that you can make the necessary mitigating measures. To inquire or register, please call the ECOP Training and Development Department at 0920-4526428, 890-4845, 890-4847 or 899-0411 or e-mail at training@ecop.org.ph or joey.molina@ecop.org.ph

PSTD 33rd national convention is back on Oct. 24 to 26

THE GLOBAL MARKET NOW DEMANDS transformational changes from your organization, with all the new developments and innovations. Find the need to seek keys to getting your organization to stay ahead. Learn how to cope with these changing times and uncertainties through your most vital resources, your people, by joining the Philippine Society for Training and Development's 33rd National Convention on Oct. 24-26 at the Taal Vista Hotel, Tagaytay City.

All Human Resource Development Practitioners are invited to learn more about this year's theme, "Building People, Deepening Values, Strengthening Relationships: Key to Performance and Results." Times may be changing fast, but you'll be bringing your organization to the top with all your new ideas from the PSTD 33rd National Convention. For information and registration, please call 8139072 or 8140372; email pstdsecretariat@yahoo.com or secretariat@pstd.org; or check out www.pstd.org.

Sunpower Corporation to inaugurate new site in Batangas

NOW, MORE THAN EVER, THE WORLD NEEDS alternative sources of power. Solar power is at the forefront of research and development as a renewable energy source. Providing clean, potentially unlimited and inexpensive power, the sun can provide the solution to the world's energy needs.

SunPower Corporation designs, manufactures and delivers high-performance solar electric systems worldwide for residential, commercial and utility-scale power plant customers. SunPower high-efficiency solar cells and solar panels generate up to 50 percent more power than conventional solar technologies and have a uniquely attractive, all-black appearance.

SunPower's headquarters and research and development facilities are located in San Jose, California, the heart of Silicon Valley. It has also offices in North America, Europe and Asia. SunPower is a majority-owned subsidiary of Cypress Semiconductor Corp.

In March 2005, SunPower inaugurated their first manufacturing site located at Laguna TechnoPark, Sta. Rosa. To date, SunPower Corporation has invested 27 billion Philippine pesos to include the second manufacturing site at First Philippine Industrial Park, Batangas which will be inaugurated on July 30, 2007. This will be attended by Pres. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and other distinguished dignitaries in both the private and public sector.

There are now 1,900 employees in SunPower Coporation's plant, which will grow to over 3000 by 2008.

DOLE welcomes European chamber's support to address mismatch problem

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYment (Dole) recently welcomed the reported decision of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) to help address the perennial problem on job and skills mismatch and the efforts of industry and stakeholders to find needed skills.

Labor and Employment Secretary Arturo D. Brion cited the ECCP for committing to join public and private collaboration aimed at remedying the job and skill mismatch.

Brion said the ECCP's support would greatly boost the government's efforts to help students and graduates gain entry-level industry requirements through apprenticeship and dual training.

The chamber, through its member-companies, reportedly intends to provide college students on-the-job training until they graduate. It also aims to ask other chambers of commerce to partner with schools in training college students.

The labor secretary said that the Kasanayan at Hanapbuhay or KASH program and the dual training system (DTS) of the Dole's Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) have been helping young workers including students and graduates of vocational and technical courses to gain hands on training in collaboration with partner companies and technical and vocational schools.

He said that KASH and DTS provide young workers with on-the-job training and the appropriate entry-level skills that would qualify them to be employed in companies in need of their skills.

Brion said, however, that the two programs are not enough to solve the problem on skills and job mismatch particularly in filling the vacancies for hot-jobs such as accountants, engineers, and IT positions.

DTS, for instance, addresses only the industry's need for vocational and technical skills. KASH, on the other hand, involves only those companies that accept and pay apprentices 75% of the prevailing daily minimum wage.

The Dole chief said the ECCP's commitment to help address the skills and job mismatch would fill the gap in the efforts to help students and graduates gain workplace training and entry-level requirements essential in their search for jobs including those positions classified as hot jobs.

Parsons Brinckerhoff

Parsons Brinckerhoff Philippines, Inc. (PB) is looking for qualified mechanical and electrical design engineers who are willing to have **immediate training abroad** in one of its PB offices :

SR. MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEER (1)
SR. ELECTRICAL DESIGN ENGINEER (1)

- Must be a licensed engineer, preferably a holder of a professional license
- 10 to 15 years design experience
- Strong background in design of high-rise residential and commercial building services such as HVAC, plumbing and sanitary and fire protection system
- Knowledgeable of design softwares and CADD
- Leadership / Management skill is a must, willing to lead a team of engineers
- Good communication skills

MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEERS (4)
ELECTRICAL DESIGN ENGINEERS (4)

- Must be a licensed engineer
- Minimum 5 years continuous design experience
- Strong background in design of high-rise residential and commercial building services
- Knowledgeable of design softwares and CADD
- Leadership skill is a plus
- Good communication skills

Send your resumé and contact numbers either by mail, fax, or email to the address below:

Human Resources Department
Parsons Brinckerhoff
19/F OMM-CITRA Building, 39 San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Metro Manila
Tel. 687-1061, Fax Nos. 635-6159, 687-4183
E-mail : **waller.eloisa@pbworld.com, casidsid.cynthia@pbworld.com**

FONTANA RESORT & COUNTRY CLUB
CM Recto Highway, CSEZ, Clarkfield, Pampanga
Tel. Nos. : 045-599-5000/02-843-9114 (loc. 8252/fax loc. 8253)

Fontana Resort & Country Club, a 5-star Resort inside Clark Freeport Zone, is almost finished with its major expansion and we need experienced staff to join our pre-opening team (preferably from the Hotel Industry) and fill up the following positions:

(Mandarin speaking is a must)

ASST. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ASST. GENERAL MANAGER
HR MANAGER - CHINESE
CHINESE INTERPRETER / TRANSLATOR

(Mandarin speaking is an advantage)

ASST. F&B DIRECTOR
ASST. HR DIRECTOR
ASST. F&B MANAGER
DUTY MANAGERS
FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
ASST. FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
RECEPTION MANAGER
TRANSPORTATION MANAGER
LAUNDRY MANAGER
ASST. LAUNDRY MANAGER
FINANCE MGR.-INVENTORY MGMT.
COST CONTROLLER
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE ENGR.
CHIEF MECHANIC
DUTY ENGINEERS
ELECTROMECHANICAL SUP.
SALES MANAGER
RESTAURANT MANAGERS
ASST. RESTAURANT MANAGERS
ASST. BANQUET MANAGERS
ASST. BEVERAGE MANAGER
SOUS CHEFS
CHEF D' PARTIE
ASST. PASTRY CHEF
ASST. CHIEF STEWARD
BAR CAPTAIN
CAPTAIN WAITERS
SOMMELIER
STEWARD SUPERVISORS
AREA HOUSEKEEPER
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE (Manila & Clark)
GRAPHIC ARTISTS
QA ENGINEER

Interested applicants may apply through our email address at **frcc@fontanaleisureparks.com** or mail to our address above or you may personally submit your comprehensive resume, other pertinent documents and latest 2X2 picture at Fontana Resort & Country Club (Clubhouse B), HRD Office, Monday to Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and look for Ms. Soc Diaz.

IMMEDIATE OPENING IN A LEADING STEEL COMPANY

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISORS (MS) – Mechanical & Electrical

- To be responsible for planning work and meeting schedules related to engineering & maintenance
- To requisition, allocate and utilize human and physical resources to achieve the above
- To organize, monitor, and develop subordinates;
  - *Licensed Mechanical / Electrical Engineer*
  - *Male, 25 to 35 years old*
  - *With at least three (3) years of supervisory experience*
  - *Good scholastic background and track record*
  - *Preferably with knowledge in Process Control Systems*
  - *Computer literate with knowledge in AutoCAD*
  - *Good communication and interpersonal skills*

ENGINEERS (EN) – for Staff and Line work

- *BS Mechanical Engineer & BS Electrical Engineer (preferably licensed)*
- *Male 22 to 28 years old*
- *Preferably with experience*
- *Computer literate with knowledge in AutoCAD*

PLANT ELECTRICIAN (PE)

- *Vocational graduate in Electrical Technology or Electronics*
- *Male, 22 to 28 years old*
- *3 years experience in manufacturing set-up*
- *Familiar in industrial motor control*
- *Knowledge in motor rewinding*

PLANT or AUTOMOTIVE MECHANIC (PM)

- *Vocational graduate in Mechanical Technology*
- *Male, 22 to 28 years old*
- *3 years experience in heavy industrial manufacturing set-up*

We offer competitive compensation package, commensurate to qualification and experience. Residents of Pasig, Marikina, Cainta, Antipolo, San Juan, Quezon City and Cubao will find our location very accessible.

Direct written application with full return address, contact numbers, resumé, plus transcript, with 2x2 latest picture to:

HUMAN RESOURCES & ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT
P.O. BOX 456 Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila

JOB Market
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Employment Opportunities

Senior Accounting Assistant
(Ref. No. EXT-AS07-069(6)-CTAC-FSC)

Responsibilities
The position undertakes a variety of specialized clerical accounting duties, maintenance of the Supplier Database, preparation of accounting and other reports, and oversight function for sound internal control for various Oracle processes under the Accounts Payable Module, and carries out administrative functions as required.

Reporting Arrangements
The position reports to Assistant Controller, Accounting Division (CTAC); Financial Control Specialist, Financial Systems and Control Section; and/or Control Officer.

Selection Criteria
Specific criteria include: (i) suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level; (ii) a Bachelor degree in business administration, major in accounting, with CPA qualification; (iii) at least 5 years experience in accounting preferably in a computerized environment of a large organization; experience in treasury accounting; experience in system implementation; (iv) good understanding of accounting policies, practices and systems, general policies, procedures, guidelines and reporting requirements prevalent in multilateral institutions; good understanding of investment and funding instruments; (v) good command of written and spoken English; (vi) good understanding of the interactions between different work areas and relevant work flows and their purpose, and business knowledge of the relevant areas prevalent in a multilateral institution; (vii) systematic and analytical skills, with strong numerical ability, and great attention to details; (viii) good knowledge of Accounting system and its interfaces with other systems and work areas prevalent in a multilateral institution; (ix) good understanding of basic general accounting concepts and principles, and their application; (x) good interpersonal skills and ability to provide feedback to subordinate support staff; and (xi) ability to plan schedules in order to meet deadlines.

Accounting Assistant
(Ref. No. EXT-AS07-179(4)-CTAC-FRA)

Responsibilities
The position undertakes a range of clearly defined and circumscribed accounting duties: carries out administrative functions, as required; maintains and updates accounting records; maintains accounting/internal controls; prepares accounting and other reports; and contributes towards preparing financial statements.

Reporting Arrangements
The position reports to Assistant Controller; Financial Control Specialist, Financial Reporting and Analysis Section (CTAC); and/or Control Officer.

Selection Criteria
Specific criteria include: (i)suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level; (ii) a Bachelor degree in computer science, finance or business administration, major in Accounting, with CPA qualification; (iii) at least 3 years accounting experience in a computerized environment of a large organization, preferably in financial or banking sector. Candidates with some experiences in reputable public accounting firm preferred; (iv) good understanding of accounting policies, concepts and practices and the application thereof; fair understanding of the business process work flows of different work areas and the interaction among them in a large organization; (v) fair knowledge of accounting system (such as Oracle) used in multi-national or large organizations and its interfaces with other systems; (vi) proficiency with MS Office, in particular Excel, and in the use of computer databases to extract, summarize, and produce information for financial related reports; and (vii) solid interpersonal skills and good command of written and spoken English.

For more details about the positions, please see http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting the **Ref. No. of the position** and **job title** on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: LS-jobs@adb.org by **13 August 2007**.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

Administrative Assistant

Responsibilities
The position performs a full range of administrative duties for one to three professional staff by:

- Ensuring that all correspondence and documents for supervisors are properly typed, prepared, submitted on time and in compliance with ADB's standards;
- Ensuring all incoming mails are logged, properly distributed and brought to the attention of concerned staff, and that all outgoing mails/faxes are delivered on time;
- Providing efficient reception services;
- Ensuring the effective coordination of supervisors' schedules by maintaining their diaries and arranging appointments, meetings, travel and accommodation as specified by the supervisors and in accordance with ADB procedures; and
- Ensuring the office filing systems and records are properly maintained and updated in accordance with an existing framework for easy retrieval.

For more details about the position, please go to http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

Reporting Arrangement
The position reports to one to three professional staff.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- Bachelor's degree;
- At least 3 years experience in a private or public organization;
- Good typing/editing skills and memo composition;
- Good knowledge of computer software (e.g., word processing, spreadsheets);
- Ability to work with individuals from different cultural/national backgrounds;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills; and
- Ability to manage priorities and workload within general schedule of work, instructions and standardized practices.

Application Procedure
Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS07-184(4)-BPHR-PP** and **Administrative Assistant** on subject line and attaching a completed application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: PP-jobs@adb.org by **13 August 2007.**

Due to the volume of applications, ADB will not respond to inquiries about application status and will only contact shortlisted candidates.

Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Asian Development Bank ADB

www.adb.org

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City
is now accepting applications for
Academic Year 2008

FELLOWSHIPS:

I. **Pediatric Cardiovascular Medicine Department**
   - 3 years Residency in General Pediatric accredited by PPS
   - at least passed written examination for Diplomate in Pediatrics

II. **CV Anesthesia Division**
   - 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)

III. **Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery Division**
   - 4 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS (Board eligible)

RESIDENCIES : (For Medical Board Passers)

I. **Nuclear Medicine Division**
II. **Biological & Clinical Laboratory Division**
III. **CV Radiological Sciences Division**
IV. **1 year Fellowship Program**
   1. **Radiology**
   2. **Nuclear Medicine**
   3. **Biological & Clinical Laboratory**

- *Deadline for Submission of application is on August 31, 2007*
- *Academic year 2008 starts on January 1, 2008*

General Requirements:

1. Medical Diploma
2. Transcript of Records with the General Weighted Average
3. Itemized Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation with at least one letter written by the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous Training Programs (duplicate letters or photocopies will not be accepted)
5. Four (4) pcs 2" x 2" colored picture

Please address your communications to:
ARISTIDES G. PANLILIO, M.D.
Department Manager II
The Department of Education, Training and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela O. Rivera or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia with Tel. Nos. 925-24-01 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

---

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

A foreign assistance organization has an immediate need for an **ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN.** The incumbent will be responsible for a range of professional accounting duties in the processing, analyzing and reconciling of accounting transactions. He/She will be responsible for doing financial accounting reports. In relation to this, the incumbent will participate and coordinate with the concerned offices in the organization for financial policy matters and implementation plans and activities. Completion of college degree in accounting or bookkeeping is required. From 3 to 4 years of progressively responsible experience in accounts maintenance, bookkeeping or closely-related accounting technician work for a foreign assistance organization is desirable. He/She must have the ability to comprehend and to properly apply to the accounting process the various and detailed technical program regulations, terms and conditions. A good command of both written and spoken English is essential. The ability to effectively use MS Excel and MS Word is required.

Competitive salary (including mid-year and year-end bonuses), health and life insurance, supplementary retirement plan are offered.

Application letter with 2x2 photo and comprehensive resumé must be received **no later than August 3, 2007.**

Human Resources Division
P.O. Box EA 423
1000 Ermita, Manila

WORKING PEOPLE

E-mail: workingpeople@inquirer.com.ph.

Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

Text us your feedback: Inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Ways to find a job when you're in your 50s

I HAVE BEEN JOBLESS FOR three months now after resigning from a multinational corporation. I have been looking for a job from every conceivable source. I have 84 online applications in one job search engine alone, 46 in another, and I just opened an account in the Job Market.

I have 11 years of experience in human resources, which I know is my mission in life. I am getting frustrated because I was used to being "pirated" in my last five jobs. I am versed in the manufacturing, publication and airlines industries. I had a few job interviews which never materialized into serious job offers. I am beginning to suspect that it is my age that turns off probable employers.

Can you give me tips on how to get a job in my 50s?

Oldie but Goldie

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie O. Cecilia

As I always say, "You're in great company." Thousands of highly qualified professionals today are jobless because they are in their golden years.

Hundreds of companies prefer to hire young, "inexpensive" professionals who can be trained. You can't blame them—it's a good business strategy.

Business strategy

A few companies prefer to hire the best now. Others who can't afford the best hire the young who can be the best in the years to come. Wiser companies tend to do both hiring strategies and plan for the graceful exit of aging, highly paid, sickly experienced professionals, even as they train and break in the yuppies who have potential.

As long as companies are built for profits, their owners will continue to find the best way to utilize all their resources, including human resources. When resources outlive their usefulness, the owners will look for the easiest, quickest and cheapest way to dispose of those resources.

Who gets retained and who gets "disposed of" is a business decision. But it is not purely business—it gets very, very personal.

Employment strategy

Businesses have a strategy to choose who gets hired, retained and disposed of. Employees must also have a strategy to choose, stay and leave the companies they work with. To many employees, this is an absolutely absurd theory. But unless you realize this, you will continue to be dependent and controlled by employers. If your employment is your only means of livelihood, make it your business. You must have an "employment strategy" in the same way that business has a business strategy. If you want a job and don't have one now, looking for a job must be your job for the moment.

Recruiter's job

To many people, getting a job is like waiting for some company to be generous enough to offer them a job. The harsh reality is that the job of a recruiter is not to give away jobs. His mandate is to fill up vacancies in his organization. Therefore, they should not be blamed if they don't hire you. The day the HR manager saw your resumé or met you, it was never in his consciousness to be generous to you, despite the niceties he showed. If you ever get hired, it is because you happen to meet the job specifications.

Your product

Getting a job is a marketing activity. You are selling a product—yourself. Your resumé must be like a product advertisement or commercial. Your resumé will not land you the job—the job interview will determine whether you get the job or you don't.

Product commercials make the product more pleasing, inviting, and wanted.

Consumers tend to take a positive action (i.e., look for the product, then buy) when they see a great product ad. I have never seen a commercial talk about the weaknesses of a product, except for Philip Morris in the commercial "The Disadvantages of Philip Morris." That commercial, ironically, highlights the product's advantage—more puffs from its length.

Tips

Therefore, if you want to get hired even in your 50s, think of yourself as a product that you want to sell. Here are a few tips:

- Don't advertise your age. Make a "competency profile" type of resumé.

Highlight your competencies rather than your personal circumstances such as age, but don't lie about it.

- Prepare for the job interview. Live a healthy lifestyle. Take care of your skin, so that you will look younger. Dress smartly to make you look younger than your age, but be sure that you don't look ridiculous or funny.
- When you get interviewed, make sure that you look and act much younger than your age. Be alert, agile and quick in your responses and show no signs of aging. Talk about work experiences that required great physical and mental effort and how you did them well
- Highlight the advantage of experience, wisdom and everything that goes with age. Let these appear naturally in the way you answer questions or talk of your experience
- Apply for higher level positions where you qualify. Don't compete for entry-level positions, as they are usually for fresh graduates or those without experience.
- Look for friends in your prospective companies who can vouch for your capabilities. Instead of making you go through the regular employment process, they might be able to arrange an interview with the senior officer who needs the position.
- Banish the fear of aging and remove all mental blocks that can cause you to fail job interviews. Never stop believing in yourself, even if everybody else has given up on you
- When all else fails, look for alternative sources of income. Send me your resumé—sometimes I need professionals for HR-related projects lasting a month to a year.

Let me leave you with some of the cutest sayings I can recall about age.

One comes from Cicero, who said, "For as I like a young man in whom there is something of the old, so I like an old man in whom there is something of the young." I agree with Cicero. As we age, let's not lose the enthusiasm, the daring, and the playfulness of the young.

Another quotation that keeps me going is the one attributed to the late great French actor Maurice Chevalier, "Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative."

You are in your 50s now. Here's something to console you and the rest of your tribe. Victor Hugo once said, "Forty is the old age of youth. Fifty is the youth of old age."

(The author is chair of IR Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce and chair of Ecop's Long Range Policy Planning Committee. He was also president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines in 1999. He is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. Feedback at ernie_cecilia@yahoo.com)

Gospel: Luke 11: 1-13

He was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples."

Learning to pray

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

IN OUR EFFORTS TO IMPROVE OUR WORK PERFORMANCE, WE would try to learn as much new techniques as possible which would make us experts on our jobs. We would observe other successful workers; inquire from the masters of the craft, profession or career we are pursuing. But I wonder whether there would be someone who would waste his time to specifically learn how to pray in order to improve his work productivity or efficiency. It would seem that learning how to pray, and spending hours in prayer would be irrelevant to the path of success in one's working life. Yet, the example of one of Jesus' disciples, who would most probably be a simple worker who asked the Lord to teach him how to pray, could make us think that there could be a very important connection between knowing how to pray and living a successful work life.

Learning how to pray may not show the worker the steps or procedure in operating a complicated machine or equipment. He would simply have to read through the operating manuals and carefully follow the detailed and specific directions on what or what not to do. Full attention and concentration might be needed on the job and getting distracted even with "holy thoughts" in prayer might put the worker and the others in the workplace in some kind of danger, or potential work problems. In whatever kind of work one does, there is need for one's whole being—body and soul—to be applied to it in order to perform excellently and to experience full satisfaction in one's work.

Asking Jesus how to pray, and praying as He does, would bring our whole being into whatever act we do in our life and our work thus producing wholesome and meaningful experiences for us and for the others. *(E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)*

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

What size is your jar?

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

LET US PARAPHRASE JESUS' DISCIPLE'S REQUEST, GIVE IT A WORKplace setting and see where it leads us. You ask the big boss, "Bossing, teach us to work like your assistant Johnny taught his staff." Bossing obliges, and the personnel acquire the skills taught to Johnny's 10 people. Five months later, six of them are terminated, three are hired part-time, and only one is employed as a permanent staff. This one also gets a nice employment package plus a promise of further training and promotion within the next 24 months. How did this happen when they all got the same training they asked for?

This simply shows us that acquiring skills alone is not enough to keep one's job. Other factors determine in varying degrees the effect of skills-training on a person. Perhaps the six workers mentioned simply wanted work to feed themselves so they went along to learn the skills. Maybe the three who were hired part-time were good but not good enough for the company to invest in, as it did to the only one it finally employed.

The disposition to learn and the motivation to work are fundamental to achieving success and satisfaction in the workplace. It's like fetching water from the spring—the amount of water you get depends on the size of the jar you bring. Your desire to learn working skills coupled with a far-reaching reason for working make up your jar. Simply working to eat is a very small jar, indeed; but a higher motivation in work naturally leads to a more intense desire to learn how to work, and therefore that jar gets you much more. And to find the highest possible motivation for yourself, you must also go beyond your known and familiar tools. No matter how brilliant you are you can still use some help from the unknown. And this is when you must say, "Lord, teach me to pray..." *(E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)*

Joy and passion for work

L-EARNING MOMENTS

Tita Datu Puangco

IT IS AN IRONY. WHEN A PERSON looks for a job for the first time, he is willing to endure the sun or the rain waiting sometimes in long queues. He takes pains to prepare his resumé with care and even simulate the interview process. However, after some time on the job this same person may start to view work as drudgery. He comes to work late. He incessantly complains about the work. In other words, he starts to become a pain in the neck of the boss and a negative influence in the workplace.

The key to self-leadership and empowerment is to have passion for work, whether or not the superior is looking, whether or not other people recognize our achievements, whether or not we are new on the job or nearing retirement.

Nature of work

Let us reflect on work. In Paradise, God asked man to "tend the garden."

Work is a sign of responsibility, an expression of trust that the worker will do the work and get it done. In today's world, work has become a basic right. A person is less than a person, if he desires to work and is capable of work but does not get the opportunity to work. Work is necessary for a person's fulfillment. It enhances a person's dignity and self-worth. The person who is unemployed for long periods often loses self-esteem.

Every person has God-given talents. Work is a means to perfect one's skills, abilities and talents. It is also the highest level of service rendered to the family, the company and society, but especially to our selves.

As in every aspect of life, a person has to seek his ideal balance. He cannot overwork all the time, getting addicted to work as in the typical workaholic. This person spends 12-15 hours a day at work, knows no other world but the world of work. He sleeps, eats and dreams of work. The opposite is also disturbing. This is when a person has no work or is underworked because he has no stable work.

Perfect work

How does a self-leader work? The era of total quality management is upon us. With quality-conscious consumers and customers, the imperative is to do the "right things right the first time, all the time." The challenge is to do "perfect work." I remember a powerful lesson I learned as an employee way back at San Miguel Corp. This is the concept of "completed staff work," where the worker does the work so well, the superior looking at his work has nothing else to add except an occasional comma. No rework. It reminds me also of the gospel saying, "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect." A self-leader has to strive for perfect work that one can sign with pride.

Let us not steal time

Perfect work is possible if we live the present moment well. This means doing one task at a time with concentration and completion to enable us to perform with excellence even in this era of multitasking and multiskilling.

An idea we have to erase from our vocabulary is Filipino time. Working with perfection means to deliver requirements on time and coming to work on time. Time is a resource as important as material resources and money.

Work as craft

A recent survey revealed that people give only 50 to 60 percent of their capabilities to the organization. They keep for themselves what is termed as "discretionary effort." An employee releases discretionary effort when he is committed to the work versus simply complying with requirements.

Before the industrial era, most workers were craftsmen. Every piece of work was a piece of art. In today's world we tend to separate art from work. Work is something we have to do and the reward is always extrinsic.

Artful work

Art on the other hand is pleasurable and its rewards are intrinsic. But the truth is work can be art and therefore pleasurable with its rewards being both extrinsic and intrinsic. All it requires is a paradigm shift.

When I view my work of training and consulting as art, I get endless enjoyment. It encourages me to improve my craft constantly.

Let us go over the key principles of artful work. One, all work can be work of art. It does not matter what kind of work, it can be housework, creative work even clerical work. Second, the reward for perfect work is in the doing, the process of doing perfect work is its own reward. The extrinsic rewards are a bonus. The reward of perfect work is joy converting all work to spiritual work. Third, artful work demands that the artist owns the work process, as the artist creates the work, the work creates the artist. Fourth, artful work requires consistent and conscious use of self.

Once again we invite our readers to write us and express if you have interest in getting a free certificate in our distance learning program entitled, "Techniques of Self Leadership." All that is needed is to pass our online quiz at the end of the 10 columns of Learning Moments.

(The author is CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a training and consulting company specializing in strategy management, leading change, human resource systems, leadership and enterprise training. Send feedback to learningmoments@ancillaedc.com.ph)

US firm motivates employees to exercise with weight-loss contest

BALTIMORE—STACEY BARICH changed her mind about having surgery to lose weight when her mother contracted a serious infection after a hospital stay. That is when she knew she had to find another way.

"I couldn't even do a sit-up when I got here, but this was a no-brainer for me," Barich said.

The no-brainer was a 12-week weight-loss contest offered by her employer, Agora Inc., a newsletter publishing company based in Baltimore. The reward: A $1,000 prize for the top "losers" in male, female and team categories.

Fitness programs and weight-loss competitions such as Agora's, which was inspired by the NBC show "The Biggest Loser," are catching on in offices, where workers are concerned about their waistlines and employers about health care costs. The goals are to improve employee health, increase productivity, reduce absenteeism and lower costs.

"The concept is becoming more popular as workplaces realized the cost of an obese work force," said Marci Campbell, an expert on work programs and an associate professor in the nutrition department at the University of Northern Carolina.

Barich, a corporate communications manager, has lost 15 pounds (7 kilograms)—she would rather not say how much she weighs—by working hard in the small, well-kept gym in Agora's basement.

"It's funny because people that know me are like, 'You work out?' But I enjoy coming here," Barich said.

By the time the contest ended Friday, 84 employees had shed nearly 1,000 pounds (454 kilograms), with two losing over 40 pounds (18 kilograms).

The company spent $90,000 for the 12-week program, which was extended for another 12 weeks. Employees have the option of working with personal trainers during classes at the company's gym or having unlimited access to a local gym. The Agora gym has free weights, cardio machines and weightlifting equipment in an exposed-brick decor.

Employee Paul Amos said he is working out to lose weight and prevent the heart disease that runs in his family.

"I'm now getting back into clothes that I couldn't fit in for a long time," said Amos, who lost 32 pounds (14.5 kilograms).

Of the company's more than 400 employees, 115 signed up for the exercise program and 84 also enrolled in the contest.

AP

SALES DIRECTOR

The position requires ambitious, competitive and self-propelled individuals who have staunch determination to excel in the competitive real estate business. The chosen candidate will be selling a multi-billion peso inventory covering the company's key projects.

TO QUALIFY, THE APPLICANT MUST:

HAVE HIS OWN EXISTING SALES ORGANIZATION CONFIDENT TO BRING AT LEAST P20M IN SALES PER MONTH

REMUNERATION PACKAGE IS NEGOTIABLE

Interested applicants are requested to send their Comprehensive Resumé and 2 recent 2 x 2 ID pictures at:

PO BOX 1014
Makati Central Post Office
1250 Makati City Philippines

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PHILIPPINE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

DEPARTMENT MANAGER III

EDUCATION : A Master's degree in Nursing Service Administration or its equivalent
EXPERIENCE : At least five (5) years of experience in a supervisory or managerial position in nursing
TRAINING : None required
ELIGIBILITY : RA 1080 (Nursing Board); Career Service Executive Eligibility (CSEE) /Career Executive Service (CES)

DIVISION CHIEF II

EDUCATION : Bachelor's degree in Public Admin or other related course; masteral units is an advantage
EXPERIENCE : 5 yrs. relevant experience in Personnel Management functions such as recruitment and placement, position classification, employee development & training, welfare services and other related work preferably in a medium scale corporation
TRAINING : 16 hours relevant training
ELIGIBILITY : CS Professional / 2nd Level Eligibility

REQUIREMENTS:

- Application Letter Addressed to Julius A. Lecciones, M.D., MHSA, MPM Executive Director
- Bio-data/Resumé with 2x2 ID Picture
- Copy of Certificate of Eligibility/Board Rating
- Copy of Certificate of Employment

PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO:
The Director's Office
Phil. Children's Medical Ctr.
Quezon Avenue, Quezon City

WANTED

MINING SENIOR SALES ENGINEER

- Mining Engineering Gradute
- With extensive knowledge in the mining industry
- At least 10 years sales experience
- 30-45 years old
- Willing to travel within the Philippines
- With good moral character
- With basic salary plus commissions

ELECTRICAL SALES ENGINEER

- Electrical Engineering Graduate
- At least 2 years sales experience
- Male/Female, 21-25 years old
- Willing to travel within the Philippines
- With good moral character
- With salary plus commissions

*Interested applicants may call 900-5702 to 04 for details. Please provide resumé and transcript of records. Look for BRYCE/ALICE.

westrade_intl@yahoo.com.ph

---

blaine *Marketing Corporation*

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

Technical Sales Representative – Food Division

Requirements: *(Education)*
BS Food Technology/ BS Chemistry / BS Chemical Engineering *and other science related courses.*

Other Qualifications:

- *25-35 years old*
- *At least two (2) years selling experience in a Food Ingredients/Trading Company with inclination on Flavours and other Specialty ingredients.*
- *Preferably one with technical background in Research and Development and Quality Control.*
- *With driver's license*
- *Willing to travel*

Head Office: Units A&B, 2nd floor, Jjaccis Building, Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Production / Laboratory Plant : C3C, Granville Industrial Complex, Barrio Bancal, Carmona, Cavite City

APPLICANTS: Kindly email your resumés at: shivaunm@refamedlab.com
FOR INQUIRIES: Please call Ms. Shivaun @ 8502130/8090650/8501454 local 128

WANTED

TRAINING SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of any 4 year course, preferably HR Management, Industrial Engineering or Psychology
- With at least 5 years experience as a trainor
- Male / Female with pleasing personality
- Not more than 40 years old

E-mail your application letter and Resumé with 2"x2" I.D. picture on or before August 10, 2007 at:

humanresources1945@yahoo.com.ph

POEA

24-HR HOTLINES

722-1144 • 722-1155

ABS-CBN bayan

Creating opportunities...
Empowering communities...
Assuring a brighter future for our children...

RESEARCH & PLANNING ASSISTANT MANAGER

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor/ College degree in Statistics, Economics, Social Anthropology, Community Development and other related field.
- Masters' degree is an advantage
- With 2-3 years managerial and supervisory experience in corporate/social development organizations
- With at least 4-5 years experience in action research, particularly in gathering, analyzing and interpreting Macro environmental data (social, political, economic, ecological, & technological); Industry data (industry classification, supply chain, products, technology, market chain); and Economic profile of particular area where Bayan Foundation operates (NCR, CLR, SLR, NLR, WVR)
- With knowledge of Focused Group Discussion (FGD), field interviews, data collection, interpretation and consolidation among family-centered, community-based enterprising clientele
- With ability to present findings in consistent, coherent manner that promotes sound operations planning, programming and decision-making
- Team player, committed, responsible, resourceful, diligent, with high people's skills, willing to travel
- Creative, analytical, with good writing and presentation skills
- With excellent knowledge of Microsoft applications

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

- BSBA-Accounting/BSA Graduate, must be a CPA, preferably not more that 35 yrs old
- At least 5 years supervisory experience related to financial, management & tax accounting gained from a financial/ social development institution
- Must have experience in all aspects of Accounting. Financial Statement preparation and analysis
- Experience in auditing (is a plus factor)
- Knowledgeable in using Balmori Payroll Software and Peachtree Accounting System
- Highly proficient in using MS Office
- Must be analytical and a good decision-maker
- With excellent communication skills (oral and written)
- Team leader and willing to work overtime
- High stress tolerance and physically fit

ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT MANAGER

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor/College degree in Business Administration, Entrepreneurship, Marketing Management, Management Accounting, Financial Management and other related field.
- Masters' degree is an advantage
- With 2-3 years managerial and supervisory experience in corporate/social development organizations
- With at least 4-5 years experience in enterprise development, particularly in initiating and growing out family-based microenterprises
- With working knowledge of the supply and market chain, product development, market networks, events organizing and area/ enterprise research findings
- With ability to present research findings in consistent, coherent manner that promotes sound enterprise planning, programming and decision-making
- Knowledgeable of the industry's current core procedures and processes.
- Must be able to create network to boost enterprise service delivery
- Team player, committed, responsible, resourceful, diligent, with high people's skills, willing to travel
- Creative, analytical, with good writing and presentation skills
- With excellent knowledge of Microsoft applications
- Team player, committed, responsible, resourceful, diligent, willing to travel

TREASURY OFFICER

- BSA Graduate or any related business course, preferably not more than 30 years old
- At least 1 year experience related to treasury / budget functions
- Familiar with different bank transactions
- Highly proficient in using MS Applications (especially in MS Excel)
- Analytical and a good decision-maker
- Excellent communication/ negotiation skills
- Willing to work overtime & a good motivator
- Willing to do liaison tasks
- High stress tolerance and physically fit

SENIOR SYSTEMS ANALYST

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor/ College degree in Information Technology, Computer Science or equivalent
- With 5 years experience in the design, development and implementation of enterprise-wide systems
- With knowledge of the Microfinance Industry and is familiar with Industry terminologies
- In depth knowledge in Systems Analysis and Design process
- With extensive knowledge / background in System Development for .NET and Win32 environments
- With extensive knowledge / background in databases such as MS SQL SERVER, and MySQL
- Required skills in C#, Delphi and VB
- Must be able to write and prepare feasibility studies and software/hardware specifications
- Must be able to investigate problems, analyze alternatives, and propose solutions
- Must be capable of conducting benchmark testing and perform computer-aided analysis and design
- Must act as a liaison between company and software/hardware vendors
- Must have excellent analytical skills and creative approach to problem solving
- Must be creative
- Must be able to work well with others

Interested applicants are requested to mail/email their resume to:

ABS-CBN BAYAN FOUNDATION, INC.
2/f Calderon Bldg., 827 EDSA, QUEZON CITY
EMAIL:
pmoffice@absbayan.pinoycentral.com
Telephone No: (02) 929-3273 loc. 801
Telefax (02) 413-0349
Look for Dhana Liwanag

Our Company:

PeopleTech is a company with network and offices that spans through Singapore & Philippines.

Primary business and focus of PeopleTech Inc. is IT Consulting and Services, offering a wide array of solutions customized for a range of key verticals and horizontals. PeopleTech Inc. has strong and experienced recruitment teams between offices that allows optimal resource mobilization and quick response time.

We are not limited to specific technologies with regards to our Professional Services. We are totally client driven and can provide with suitable profiles accross all technologies and at all levels. In the Technology Services our focus is in ERP (SAP, Oracle & Peoplesoft), Microsoft.Net, Oracle, Java/J2EE and Document and Content Management. We are a partner of Netsuite for service implementation that includes project management, data conversion, integration and configuration. Our Netsuite clients include companies from US, UK, Canada, Thailand, Philippines and Singapore.

We lay stress on quality, business ethics and employee welfare & benefits. We are transparent in our business transactions and flexible to work to accommodate our clients' budgets.

Our Client:

Nityo Infotech Corporation is an information technology consulting company headquartered in New Jersey, USA.

At Nityo our key focus is to empower our customers with business solutions through state of the art technology and best-of-bread business processes.

Our team strongly believes in End to End solution which consists of redefining and rethinking the existing business processes through our deep industry understanding coupled with world class technology solutions to empower our customers "To Bay the Competition Away".

We understand the importance of 'Time-to-Market'. To address that our team has created the best technology solution frameworks to ensure the solutions are implemented in the shortest possible span of time through our State of the art 'Center Of Excellence' - COE and ClickAway methodology.

To address the growing competition and to bring the share holders value, we have designed SafeShore offering. Through Safeshore, we bring 'Core Competence focus' energy back to business which not only results in tremendous cost saving but more importantly brings the sharp edge to be the business leader in the respected industry.

Hiring: (9) Mainframe Consultants (System Analyst / Analyst Programmer)

Skills: Experienced in Operating System IBM Mainframe, MVS/ESA, Cobol/Cobol II/DC Cobol, IDMS Cobol, Cobol DB2, IDMS/DB2 Easytrieve Plus, CICS DB2

Qualifications: Diploma or Degree in IT or any related courses (4+ years IT experience);
2 years experience on IDMS or DB2;
Team player, hardworking;
Willing to start immediately and can work with minimum supervision;
Willing to travel and relocate

Job type: Permanent

Qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumé with photo at erwingonzalez@peopletechcons.com or fax at 6384213. Also, accept walk-in submission

(Unit 1006 Cityland Shaw Tower, Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City)

WANTED

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR

Qualifications:

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old
- Can administer SQL 2005 and 2000 from Clustering, log shipping and failing over the servers
- With good interpersonal skills

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR

Qualifications:

- Male or female, not more than 35 years old
- Can build and maintain servers 2000/2003/citrix firealling/ security/exchange 2003
- With knowledge in AD/Microsoft technology
- Have used vmware and must be familiar with SAN Technology

Apply in person from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. only, Mondays to Thursdays with barangay clearance, police clearance, NBI clearance, transcript of records, birth certificate, bio-data, SSS no. and 2x2 photo at:

INT'L DATA CONVERSION SOLUTIONS INC.
15th Floor Summit One Tower
Special Economic Zone
530 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

International Data Entry

The National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO) is urgently in need of the following:

Call Center Agents:

- With at least 3 months call center experience
- Willing to work on graveyard shift
- Performance-driven
- Hardworking and competitive
- Excellent communications skill
- Can work with grace under pressure

Accounting Assistants:

- Graduate of Accounting course
- Preferably with knowledge in accounting software
- Good communication and interpersonal relation skills

Attractive remuneration awaits successful candidates. Please e-mail your resumé in Word format to **hr@natcco.coop**

WEB DESIGNER

Advanced Media Concepts Group Ltd.
is looking for
Graphic Artist
who is specializing in Web Design.

Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator skill is a must.
Must be able to communicate well in English.
Must be creative and innovative.
Strong work ethic required.

Send your resumé/portfolio to
myk_1384@amcgltd.net
www.amcgltd.net

Will Decena AND ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERS BUILDERS

Our company is in need of individuals to fill-in the following positions:

CIVIL ENGINEERS
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS
HRD ASSISTANTS
MATERIALS COMPTROLLER
PURCHASING ASSISTANT
EQUIPMENT SUPERVISOR

Bring your resumé and other credentials and apply personally at:
Tel. No. 927-8406 look for **Gerald Decena**
Email: **wda230401@yahoo.com**

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES

LOOKING FOR A TEACHING JOB?

- ✓ ISO CERTIFIED 9001:2000
- ✓ PACUCOA Accredited
- ✓ CHED Center of Development (COD) for ITE

Visit: ***www.tip.edu.ph***

Browse on LINKS & click on HR Portal

WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY HIRING TO INCREASE OUR RESOURCE POOL OF QUALIFIED FACULTY MEMBERS

Oxfam

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering.

Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme is offering an employment opportunity for

Disaster Response and Preparedness Programme Officer

The Role

In line with Oxfam Great Britain's strategic plans and policy guidelines, Oxfam wishes to build its organizational capacity to continue to prepare and respond to disasters both natural and complex in the Philippines.

This post will form a focal point for building capacities of the organization and its partners and networks. The role also includes being the deputy for the Humanitarian Programme Coordinator for response and preparedness.

The Key Responsibilities:

1) **Increase Oxfam's capacity to respond to small and medium sized emergencies, focusing on public health and emergency food security and livelihood programs**
2) **Promotion of humanitarian standards and good practice**
3) **Develop Oxfam GB's contingency planning for large scale emergencies**
4) **Build Disaster Management training capacity in the country**
5) **Contribute to Oxfam's Response to disasters**

Person Specification

- At least five years work experience with Humanitarian agency
- Have experience of disaster response, including field experience
- Excellent networking and facilitation skills
- Have a knowledge and understanding of the Philippine Disaster Management environment, its dynamics and operations
- Have a knowledge of the disaster situation in the Philippines including social, economic and political issues
- Have a knowledge and understanding of disaster management including emergency assessment, planning and implementation and a commitment to community-based approaches
- Ability to work with a team
- Understanding of gender issues in development and commitment to promoting gender equality
- Experience in strategic and programme planning; skills and experience of monitoring; evaluation and appraisal
- Ability to work on his/her own initiatives to build on and develop the job, combined with the ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Fluency in written and spoken English
- Good oral and written communication skills and an ability to relate to people from all backgrounds
- Willingness to travel frequently, sometimes in remote areas for extended periods, to visit projects and partners

In addition, the following are highly desirable:

- A broad understanding of development issues at the national and international level
- Experience of community-based disaster response and management
- Experience of working with government/officially mandated agencies for disaster preparedness and response
- Experience of work in gender issues, including e.g planning, training, research and organizing is highly desirable, specific gender related work in DM is an advantage
- Experience in RRA (Rapid Rural Appraisal) methods and ability to promote participatory processes

This is a fixed assignment of six months (with a possibility to continue in the post for a further 6 months). Interested applicants are encouraged to send application letter and CV to:

Human Resources Manager
OXFAM GREAT BRITAIN
95-A Malumanay Street
Teacher's Village, Diliman, Quezon City 1101
FAX: 927-0499 email: etadeo@oxfam.org.uk

Deadline of application : 10 August 2007

Grasso Philippines, Inc.

GEA REFRIGERATION DIVISION

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING !!!

We are a wholly-owned subsidiary of one of the world's biggest refrigeration companies and a leading manufacturer of innovative systems and components for industrial refrigeration and block ice-making plants. Our operation is backed-up by the resources and technical expertise of a multinational organization based in the Netherlands and Germany who provides full support in the aspects of design and installation, fabrication of refrigeration components, and maintenance and service of existing installations.

We would like to invite qualified applicants for the following positions:

DESIGN/APPLICATION ENGINEER

You will be responsible for the preparation of engineering studies and plans, cost-price calculation, sales quotation, and related works.

You must be an Electrical or Mechanical Engineer, with good academic background, preferably with a license. A minimum one year experience in the design of an industrial refrigeration plant, cold storage, or ice-making plant, will be an advantage, but literacy in engineering software programs esp. CAD is a must. You must be a fast learner, hardworking, willing to work on extended hours, and can work with minimum supervision. Having good selling intuition will also be an advantage. Male or female, 20-35 years old.

PROJECT ENGINEER

You will be responsible for the preparation of detailed engineering studies and plans, bill of materials, etc. You will also be responsible to coordinate the design, fabrication of components, and the actual project management, implementation and commissioning of simultaneous projects.

You must be a Mechanical Engineer, with good academic background, preferably with a license. You must have at least two (2) years experience in the field of mechanical engineering and installation works. Literacy in engineering software programs (such as CAD & MS Project) is likewise a must.

You must be honest, independent-minded, assertive, and have strong personality. You must have good interpersonal, planning and organization skills. You must be willing to travel to different provincial areas. Male, 20-37 years old.

SERVICE ENGINEER / TECHNICIAN

You will be responsible for overhauling of industrial refrigeration compressor, troubleshooting & repair, starting-up and commissioning of refrigeration system.

You must be an electrical or mechanical engineering graduate or a graduate of industrial technology course or equivalent, with good scholastic record. You must have had exposure in the field of electro-mechanical installations, with at least 2 years experience in industrial ammonia or Freon refrigeration system.

You must be willing to travel, honest, hardworking, responsible, and can work with minimum supervision. Knowledge in computer applications will be an advantage. Male, 20 – 28 years old.

Above-industry standard compensation and company benefits await the qualified individual. Hand carry, mail or fax your resume with recent ID picture to:

4A Panorama Compound, Veterans Center, Taguig, Metro Manila, Fax # 837-3120

The **Travel Division of a prestigious Group of Company**, is in urgent need of dynamic and highly motivated individuals to assume the following positions:

(1) HR Officer

- A Bachelor's Degree holder preferably in Psychology
- With at least three years experience in handling all facets of HR
- Knowledge of a range of recruitment strategies and techniques
- Knowledge and understanding of state employment and labor laws, regulations, procedures and standards

(1) Sales Manager for a domestic carrier

- At least three (3) years extensive experience in a Senior Sales position
- Wide network of contacts in various industries, including corporate and private sectors
- Track record of bringing in production and increasing sales
- Effective team leader and motivator to the Sales Executives

(1) Corporate Sales Executive for a GSA of an international carrier

- College graduate from any reputable institution, graduates of business courses will be given preference
- Must possess a pleasing personality with the ability to communicate with a diverse group of people and clients
- Strong presentation and numerical skills, willing to be assigned on field work
- Preferably with an Airline or Travel Agency background

(1) Account Executive

- College graduate from any reputable institution, graduates of business courses will be given preference
- Good command of written and oral English
- Aggressive in tapping new accounts
- Sales experience in a Travel Industry is preferred and willing to be assigned on field work
- Proficient in MS Office applications, knowledge in Amadeus, Abacus, Galileo and other reservations systems a plus

(1) Reservations and Ticketing Associate

- College graduate from any reputable institution preferably in Tourism, a Travel Agency work experience an advantage
- Good oral communication skills
- Proficient in MS Office Applications, knowledge in Amadeus, Abacus, Galileo and other reservations systems a plus

An affiliate company in the same group, **a Retailer of a famous sports brand**, is looking for:

(2) Store Supervisors

- College graduate of any Management-related course
- Must have a significant working experience, preferably in retailing
- Must be goal-oriented and determined to achieve sales targets
- Should be willing to work on weekends/holidays

Qualified applicants are requested to submit their curriculum vitae with picture via email, indicating the position they are applying for as subject, and submit to **hr_department07@yahoo.com**

Submission of applications is from July 30 – August 10, 2007

Amnesty INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES

Amnesty International is seeking a highly experienced individual to manage the organization's operations in the Philippines.

DIRECTOR

Under the direct management of the International Secretary General the director will:

- Manage all aspects of Amnesty Internationals operations in the Philippines, incl. campaign and media work as well as human and financial resources
- Manage the implementation of the organizational change plan aimed at strengthening governance, management and accountability structures
- In coordination with the relevant managers at the International Secretariat, develop long term strategic plans to secure a sustainable Amnesty International presence in the Philippines

The successful candidate will:

- Have a track record of successful management experience and in promoting growth in membership, activism and supporters
- Be experienced in developing, implementing and evaluating strategic and operational plans and budgets
- Be a skilled and confident communicator with the ability to represent Amnesty International both externally and inside the organization
- Knowledge of and commitment to the human rights cause

For further information and application pack please e-mail:
directorapps@amnesty.org.ph
Application deadline: **Monday, 20th August**

With more than 2 million members in over 150 countries and territories, Amnesty International is a global movement of people who campaign for internationally recognized human rights. Amnesty International is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and is concerned solely with the impartial protection of human rights.

WINDOWS XP & 2000

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

JOBS

Can you fix

Win2K / XP

problems?

Have 1+ Years Experience?

email ManilaComputerJobs@gmail.com

GeiserMaclang
High Impact Marketing Communications and Business Solutions

GeiserMaclang Communications is one of the country's most groundbreaking and transformative communications firms, representing some of the Philippines' well-loved brands and market leaders.

The team is committed to the recruitment and retention of the best and brightest talents to provide public relations and marketing solutions that meet the unique needs of our clients. We are looking for the right people to lead us as we take the next step towards growth.

MEDIA TRACKER/EDITOR

To assist the Media Monitoring Supervisor in tracking news reports.

The ideal candidate should be a Communications, Advertising, Brand Management or Journalism graduate; interested in news and public affairs; fast reader; knowledgeable in Advertising Value Equivalency (AVE) measurements; patient and willing to work long hours; able to handle multiple tasks; a team player; and proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Powerpoint and willing to learn new software applications.

IT ADMINISTRATOR/MEDIA LIBRARIAN

To provide IT support to the different departments and to assist the Media Monitoring Supervisor, Media Tracker/ Editor, the PR and logistics teams in daily operations.

The ideal candidate should be a Computer Science, IT, and/or IT Security graduate; preferably with 1 year experience as an IT Administrator; knows how to setup a secured infrastructure; proactive; and a team player.

MARKETING, PR AND COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

To assist the Marketing, PR and Communications Manager in spearheading campaigns.

The ideal candidate should be a Communications, Marketing or Business graduate; preferably with 1 year experience in account management; is proactive, patient and willing to work long hours; able to handle multiple priorities, plan ahead and work cooperatively with both internal and external colleagues; must be detail oriented and can efficiently manage their time; and has excellent MS Office skills (Word, Excel, Powerpoint).

PR WRITERS

To create written content such as press releases, feature articles, advertorials, campaign presentations, creative event invitations, scripts etc.

The ideal candidate should be a Journalism, Communications or Marketing graduate; preferably with 1 year professional writing experience within a creative (ad/ PR or marketing) agency setting; very creative with strong research skills (particularly on the net); computer-savvy; must have superior oral and written communication skills; strong editing skills; detail-oriented with the ability to manage time efficiently, handle multiple projects and meet tight deadlines; proactive, patient and willing to work long hours.

Interested applicants may forward their letter of application, detailed CV with photo and transcript of records to info@geisermaclang.com and careers@geisermaclang.com. Applications will be treated with strict confidentiality.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANT POSITION

The National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) is in search of a **SCIENCE RESEARCH SPECIALIST I** – SG-13, P156,252.00 p.a. in a substitute appointment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Educ.: Bachelor's degree relevant to the job; ***Experience:*** None required; ***Training:*** None required; ***Eligibility:*** Career Service (Professional) or Second Level Eligibility

Applications may be submitted directly to:

The Chairman
Personnel Committee
National Research Council of the Phils.
General Santos Avenue, Bicutan
1631 Taguig City

Please enclose latest curriculum vitae, certificate of eligibility, diploma of highest degree and one 2" x 2" picture. Applications must be received by NRCP on **10 August 2007.** *For inquiries please contact the NRCP Personnel Section at 837-6143 or 839-0275.*

Account Executive

- 21 to 28 years old, Male
- proficient in English communication
- preferably have experience in the construction industry
- familiar in Metro Manila

Data Encoder

- 18 to 25 years old
- very familiar in Microsoft Excel & Word

Call Marelyn Flores at 7276997, 7276841, 7277791 or 09228380834, 09209456950

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office:
897-8808
loc. 514, 516;
899-4425;
899-4427;
(Telefax)
897-8425

Cubao:
(Aurora)
912-9008 to 11

Makati:
892-5578;
811-4361;
811-4370

Kalaw:
528-0213;
527-3342

Megamall:
635-0219;
635-0220

A NEW AIRLINE
NEEDS THE FOLLOWING:

TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE PLANNER/SCHEDULER

AVIONICS TECHNICIAN

FLIGHT DISPATCHER

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON QUALIFICATIONS, PROCEDURE AND OTHER AVAILABLE POSITIONS, VISIT:

www.airline-careers.net

COLD ROCK ice creamery

Are you ready to *ROCK* your world?

Cold Rock Ice Creamery, Australia's leading super premium ice cream, is looking for motivated, smart, and independent individuals to join the fun at Cold Rock.

Store Manager (Singapore Franchise)
25-30 years old; HRM College Graduate (or a related course); with at least 2 years work experience at a supervisory level in the Quick Service Restaurant Industry; preferably single; willing to be based in Singapore

Assistant Store Manager (Philippines)
22-28 years old; HRM College Graduate (or a related course); with at least 1 year work experience at a supervisory level in the Quick Service Restaurant Industry; preferably single

Service Crew (The Fort Strip, Greenbelt Mall, Trinoma branches)
18-25 years old; at least 2nd year College; preferably single

Please e-mail your resume and picture to:
coldrockph@gmail.com. Kindly specify desired position.

AN INTERNATIONAL FIRM IS URGENTLY SEEKING FOR:

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST/ MANAGER

FOR POSITIONS IN MANILA AND DAVAO

REQUIREMENTS FOR CANDIDATE:
- 25-35 years old
- Good education
- Female
- Good verbal and written communication skills and strong command of the English language
- Experience in communicating verbally with outside parties such as customer service, public relations, sales and call center operations is a plus
- Experience in communicating business issues such as accounting, human resources, logistics, information technology is also a plus
- Good PC skills, particularly in Excel
- Independent, open-minded and highly-motivated individual
- Organized and results oriented, and is a team-player
- Works with minimum supervision

Interested parties, please send resumé via email to:

career110track@yahoo.com

The country's most widely read and circulated newspaper is in need of: PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER — BALANCED NEWS. FEARLESS VIEWS.

Systems Analyst / Programmer
- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Background in Computer hardware
- 1 to 2 years experience in this job or jobs leading to it
- Knowledge in Web Programming VP Scripting, Perl Scripting, Visual Basic or Powerbuilder, MS SQL 2000 or Sybase SQL other relational database management system

Secretary
- College graduate preferably BS Secretarial Course
- 1 year experience in related job
- Knowledge of basic office and e-mail software
- Knowledge of basic computer operations

Research Section Head
- College graduate
- 2 years experience in related or similar job
- 2 years management experience
- Computer Skills (Windows, Word, Netscape, Explorer, Excel, Corel Draw, Powerpoint)
- Familiar with publishing industry

Audit Assistant
- Accounting graduate preferably Certified Public Accountant
- At least 2 years experience in auditing/computer audit
- Knowledge of General Accounting & Auditing Principles and Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation and Labor Laws

Computer Engineer
- Graduate of Computer Engineering /ECE
- 6 months to 1 year experience on this job
- Knowledge of computer operations system like Windows XP and Windows 2000/MAC OS X, desktop applications like MS Office, Open Office, Email client , Adobe Products
- Troubleshooting skills, Interpersonal Skills, Communication Skills
- Knowledge in network

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

THE HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc.
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
The Power of Knowing

VISAYA
Knowledge Process Outsourcing

VISAYA Knowledge Process Outsourcing Corporation is a premier outbound lead generation company. We are currently looking for

CALL CENTER AGENTS

Job Description

Will perform outbound calls to service client campaigns while exceeding qualitative and quantitative performance goals.

Job Requirements

Must possess at least 6 months experience with outbound campaigns. Excellent command of the English language is essential. Must have at least 2 years of undergraduate studies in college or university. Willing to work in Makati.

We offer a competitive Compensation Package with paid leaves and medical insurance upon regularization.

Qualified applicants will be called for an initial phone interview. Please send your resumé to

info@visayakpo.com

FOR HIRING
GENERAL MANAGER

- Minimum 5 years relevant and proven administrative leadership and experience in a service-oriented type business.
- Lead a team independently and motivate team members to perform to the best of their ability.
- Work with clients at the highest level in discussions and problem solving.

Attractive remuneration packages will commmensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants may fax their resumé with photo to

Ms. Montesa at 807-3818 or send e-mail to:
bmmontesa@yahoo.com
100% confidential

TRANSCONTAINER (TCL) PHILS, INC.
G/F TDG-NYK, Harbor Centre Bldg. I, Railroad cor. 23rd and 24th Sts., Port Area, Manila

"A Leading Integrated Logistics Service Provider"

We need two (2) Account Executives

- **Preferably Marketing graduate or any business related course**
- **Preferably with minimum two (2) years experience in Sales/Marketing**
- **25-35 years old**
- **Pleasing personality with driving skills**
- **Salary negotiable**

For Inquiries, please contact:
Admin Department

Trunkline : (632) 527-9888 loc. 318
Direct Line : 527-8780 / 527-7061
Website : http://www.tcl.com.ph

A proud member of:
TRANSNATIONAL DIVERSIFIED GROUP

OFFSHORE MINING ENGINEERING COMPANY
requires

CAD DRAFTSPERSONS
ELECTRICAL - SENIOR OR LEAD DESIGN DRAFTPERSON

Applications are invited from suitably qualified personnel for the above positions for the Makati based office.

Qualification Required:
1. Experience and sound understanding in producing engineering drawings of the relevant discipline.
2. Must be skilled in the use of Autocad. Microstation/triforma experience would be an advantage
3. Must be fluent in oral and written English

Applications for the positions should include details of education and previous work experience and professional references.

Salary package and benefits are competitive. Please send all applications to manila@lycopodium.com.au

Applications must be received by C.O.B. on Friday 3rd August 2007.

PHILKINGDOM, INC. is a company sanctioned by PAGCOR to provide the ultimate gaming entertainment of *'SPORTS BETTING'* in the Philippines. Our organization is now in need of mature and highly motivated individual who are looking for a long-term career to join us

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS (CPA)
- At least 2 years work experience

BOOKKEEPERS
- Accounting graduate or any business related course

SOFTWARE DEVELOPER
- Advance knowledge of Java J2EE, with experience in J2EE Web Framework
- Good experience with web technologies, including HTML/DHTML, JavaScript, JSP, CSS
- Advanced knowledge of SQL, PL/SQL, XML
- Knowledge application servers: Preferably JBOSS, Web logic
- Database experience: Preferably oracle 9i/10g
- Knowledge in flash and action scripting will be an advantage

SYSTEM ENGINEER
- Candidate must be a graduate of Computer Engineering, ECE, Computer Science or its equivalent
- At least 3 years experience in network troubleshooting/commissioning, proficient in hardware assembly and troubleshooting
- Knows installation and configuration of windows and Linux operating systems
- Knowledge in server, routers, Wifi, Email set-up an advantage

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resumé with 2x2 photos VIA email to **joetang@philkingdom.com.**

Department of Science and Technology
Science Education Institute
Tel. #: 837-07-49

ANNOUNCEMENT OF VACANT POSITION

As of 18 July 2007

Notice is hereby given that the vacant position below of the **SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTE** is proposed to be filled-up:

Position Title	:	Accountant III
Salary/month	:	P 17,425.00
Salary Grade	:	18
Item. No.	:	SEIB-A3-1-1998
Qualifications	:	BS in Accountancy 8 hrs. of relevant training Must be computer literate 2 yrs. of relevant experience
Eligibility	:	R.A. 1080

Those who are interested and qualified may file their letter of application and curriculum vitae together with credentials (transcript of records, diploma, certificates of trainings attended, performance ratings for the last two rating periods and statement of duties and responsibilities, etc.) to the Human Resource Management, Unit Finance and Administrative Division, 3rd Flr. PTRI Bldg., Bicutan, Taguig City.

(Sgd.) ESTER B. OGENA
Director

FT.com
FINANCIAL TIMES

FT.com, the website of the ***FINANCIAL TIMES***, is expanding its editorial production unit in Manila and requires:

PRODUCTION JOURNALISTS

Ideal applicants must meet the formal skills and attributes enumerated below

- Graduate of Journalism or have completed a recognized journalism course
- Experience as a writer or sub-editor, preferably for an international publication or business website
- Show sound news judgment
- Have the potential to work in a revise sub-editor role
- Excellent command of written and spoken English and a high level of attention to detail
- Experience in covering international business and finance news
- Able to work on variable shift schedule, including weekends and holidays as required
- Able to meet tight production deadlines
- Knowledgeable in desktop publishing software packages
- Previous experience working for a multinational company

Qualified applicants should post their detailed resumé, cover letter and most recent photograph not later than Friday, August 3, 2007, to **The HR & Administration Manager** at the following address:

Financial Times Electronic Publishing Philippines Inc.
42nd Floor, Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Incomplete applications will not be processed

Visit our website www.ft.com

Kuala Lumpur · Singapore · Dubai · Manila

URGENT HIRING

INTERNATIONAL SALES AGENTS

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

QUALIFICATIONS:
- Male/Female
- Below 30 years old
- College Degree Holder
- With excellent field Marketing skills
- Proficient in English (verbal/written)

Email: Resumé with 1 work reference to:
swevenenterprises@yahoo.com
HIGH SALARY + COMMISSION

LEADING RECORDING COMPANY HAS AN URGENT NEED OF THE FF:

LOGISTICS SUPERVISOR
Graduate of Management or any related course; have at least one year work related experience • Has knowledge on inventory and warehouse management • Has a strong personality and good leadership skills

SALES SUPERVISORS/COORDINATORS
Graduate of Management, Marketing, Business or any related courses Dynamic and well-organized and can work under pressure • Has knowledge in sales, store analysis and in supervising staff

HR SUPERVISOR
Have at least a Bachelor's / College Degree in Behavioral Science, Human Resource Management, Psychology or equivalent • Preferably 1-4 years experienced employees specializing in Human Resources or equivalent • Candidates must be able to work with minimum supervision, be well-organized and self-motivated with a high level of resourcefulness

ENCODER (Typing speed of 35 to 50 wpm)

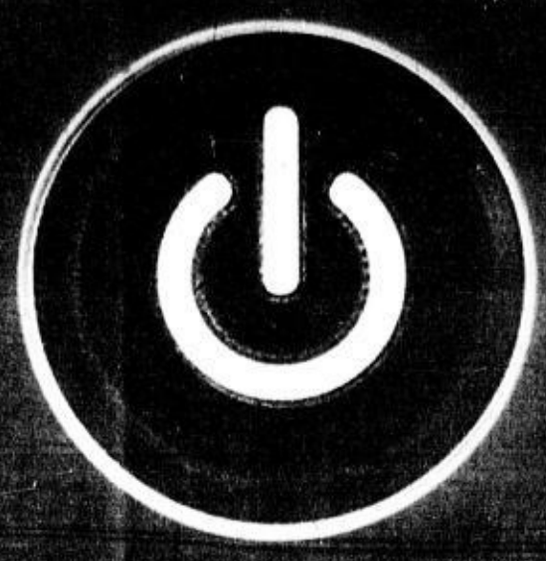
Send resumé at **hrd_abiemusic@yahoo.com** or contact Ms. Aimee at **373-8636 to 37**

ACCOUNTANTS
- Female, 25-35 yrs. old, CPA
- Knowledgeable in preparation of financial statements, BIR and other government compliances.

COMPANY NURSE
- Female, 21-29 yrs. old
- With professional license

Email: **ansonathome@gmail.com**

ARE YOU A GAMER?



eXCLUSIVE JOB FAIRS

1st Cinema Jobfair

ROBINSONS GALLERIA MOVIEWORLD CINEMA 6

JULY 31, 2007 12:30PM

PIZZA HUT BISTRO, GATEWAY MALL, ARANETA CENTER

AUGUST 7, 2007 10AM TO 1PM

NCO GROUP

4th flr. ELJ Communications Center, ABS-CBN Compound, Mo. Ignacia Ave., Quezon City

Email: manilarecruitment@ncogroup.com 981-7558 to 60, 981-7564

Maintenance Supervisor/Technician
- Graduate of Mechanical Engineering or Refrigeration Maintenance
- Knowledgeable in MS Office, CAD

Quality Control Analyst (entry level)
- Graduate of Chemistry, Pharmacy or Laboratory Technology

Quality Control Supervisor
- Graduate of Chemistry or Pharmacy
- At least 3 years experience with Q.C. supervisory function in a pharmaceutical environment

Microbiologist/Micro Staff
- Graduate of Microbiology
- At least 2 years experience as a micro staff in a pharmaceutical environment

Product Development Staff
- Graduate of Pharmacy
- At least 2 years experience as staff in R&D/Product Development

Send resumé to:
PHILMED LABORATORIES, INC.
Ladislao Diwa St., Marikina Heights, Marikina City
Email: info@philmed.com

One of the top corporation here in the country is in need of

Product Designer

who possess the following qualifications:
- Proficient in the ff. computer softwares (Adobe Premiere, Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator/Corel Draw, Autocad & Pro-E)
- Fine Arts or Industrial Design Graduate
- At least one (1) year of working experience
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills

This is for immediate employment. Please send updated resumé at:
karenpinlac@fasdevcorp.com

LEGAL ASSISTANT/PARALEGAL

Legal Assistant/Paralegal wanted at the Philippine Office of a US Debt Relief law center. Must speak/read/write English fluently and with good computer skills (MSWORD, EXCEL and MS OFFICE). At least third year in Law School.

INBOUND CSR/RECEPTIONIST

College graduate, preferably with background in business or legal management, customer and service oriented, excellent interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written), willing to work on graveyard shifts, computer literate.

Salary is commensurate with experience, but competitive to market. If interested, please e-mail CV to markp@drlawcenter.com. Interview starts July 2, 2007. Call 497-3830 for appointment.

A Reputable and POEA Awardee Manning Agency servicing Norwegian Principals is in urgent need of the following

A. CREWING MANAGER (preferably male)
B. ACCOUNTING MANAGER (pref. female)

Preferably:

A. – College graduate and not more than 45 years old
– Experience with Crewing Operations in a Manning Agency
– Proficient with MS Office

B. – Not more than 45 years old
– Experienced with Accounting Operations in a Manning Agency
– Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
– Proficient with MS Office

Please send comprehensive Resumé with picture to:
Makati Central Post Office
P.O. Box 3840

WANTED CHEMIST

A Leading Manufacturer, Fabricator & Installer of Solid Surfacing Materials URGENTLY needs:

CHEMIST – Male between 25-35 years old, Chemical Engineering or B.S. Chemistry graduate, preferably but not necessarily with 2 years experience in Solid Surface, textile or plastic industry or in polyester resin preparation, color mixing and matching in a manufacturing set-up.

Newly graduates are encouraged to apply.

Submit your resumé with 2x2 colored picture and certificate of employment to:

Unit 610 Futurepoint Plaza
112 Panay Avenue, South Triangle, Quezon City
or
H-1084 Jenny's Ave., Maybunga, Pasig City

WANTED

COMPUTER PROGRAMMER
- Male, single, 21-23 years old
- Fresh graduates are welcome
- Willing to work long hours and willing to travel

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING
Bring Requirements (Resumé & TOR)
Apply in person at BOHER EMISSION
526 Nueve de Pebrero
Mandaluyong City/Tel. No. 5348257/58
Look for Beth/Jhaz

POEA 24-HR HOTLINES
722-1144 • 722-1155

Models Needed

Beauty and Pearls, an Asian general importer of Swiss premium quality cosmetics, body care products, and fashionable jewellery, is seeking female models (18+) for an exclusive photo shoot. Models should have elegant and classic beauty.

Interested parties, please submit a CV and photos to **models@progresslink.com**

PLASTIC FIRM IN VALENZUELA
IS IN NEED OF
SALES REPRESENTATIVE/ SALES AGENT

Qualifications:
- Male, 21 to 28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With skills in oral and written communication

Look for **Ms. Sally Rivera** at tel. no. **292-5244** and **292-7842**

INQUIRER

CREBA

CREBA NATIONAL CONVENTION • 2007

October 25 - 27, 2007

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT FOR THE LARGEST EVENT OF THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

The supplement will be published on 25 October 2007 and will be distributed with the Philippine Daily Inquirer nationwide.

Reach audience who are actively looking for the best deals in real estate! Grab this chance to leverage on the Inquirer advantage - nationwidest, most read, most credible.

Be part of this supplement, for a minimum investment of PhP 11,088.00. Below are the details:

AD SIZE	WIDTH x HEIGHT		BLACK & WHITE	COLORED
Full Page Ad	9cols X 53cms	29.75cms. x 53cms.	176,299.20	317,338.56
Half Page Ad	9cols X 27cms	29.75cms. X 27cms.	89,812.80	161,663.04
One Fourth Page	6cols X 20cms 5cols X 24cms 4cols X 30cms	19.72cms. x 20cms. 16.38cms. x 24cms. 13.03cms. x 30cms.	44,352.00	79,833.60
One Eight Page	4cols x 15cms 3cols X 20cms	13.03cms. x 15cms. 9.69cms. x 20cms.	22,176.00	39,916.80
Minimum size	3cols. X 10cms.	9.69cms. x 10cms.	11,088.00	19,958.40

ACCEPTABLE AD MATERIAL
TIF Format
300 Pixels Per Inch (resolution)
CMYK Mode
DEADLINE: 12 October 2007

BOOK YOUR ADS NOW!

Call AILEEN GARCIA or DHEL MENDOZA at these numbers:
912-9008 to 11, 421-0343 or at 421-1420 or email agarcia@inquirer.com.ph

Junior INQUIRER

E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph

SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007 ✦ 8 PAGES ✦ VOLUME 10, NUMBER 70

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Win this Harry Potter jacket! Find out how on page 2.

By Isaac Cruz
12 years old
Quezon City

JI SNOOPS

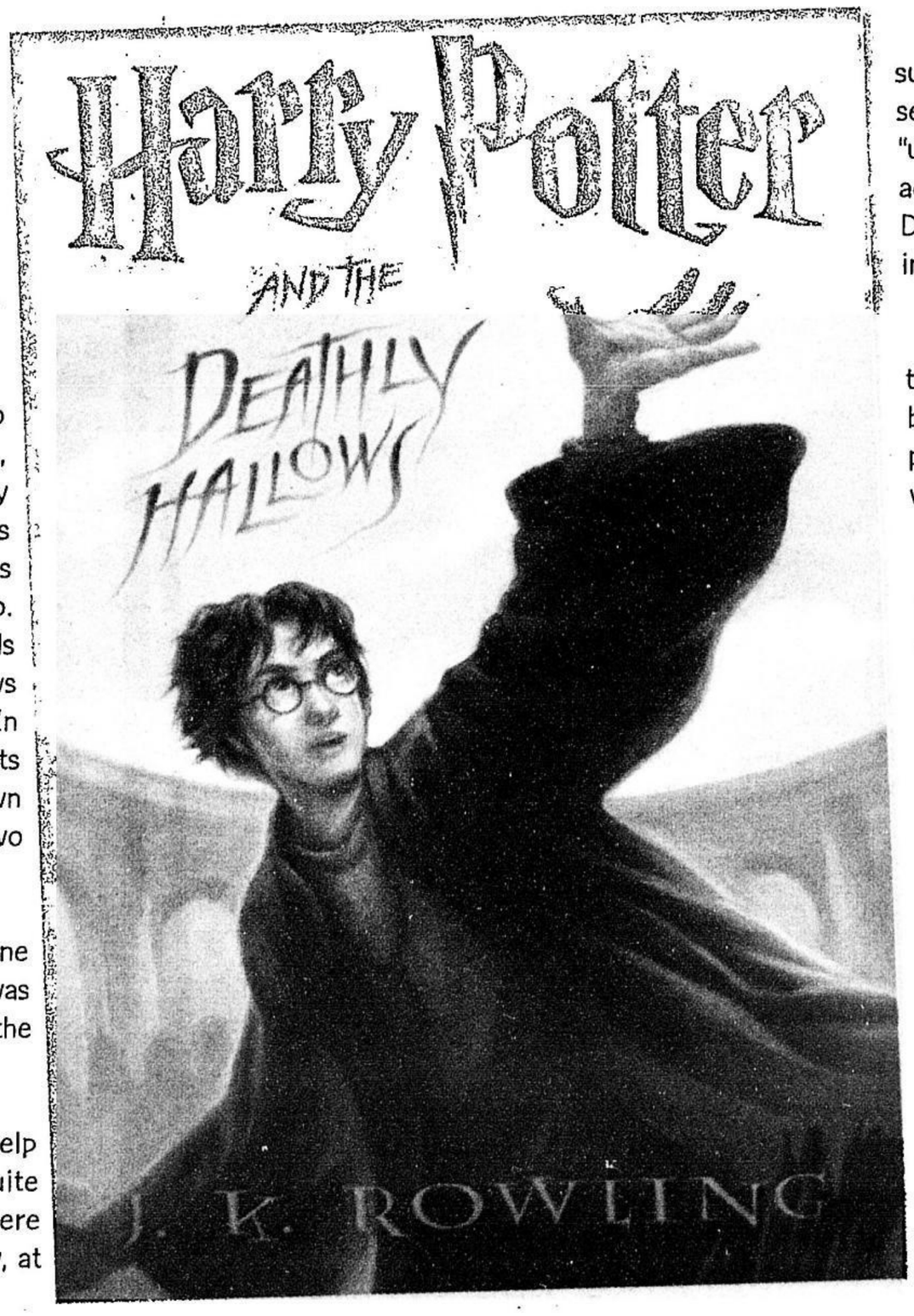
Good times come to an end

FINALLY, THE epic saga of "Harry Potter" has come to a close. In the much-awaited finale, Harry is turning 17, He-Who-Must-Not-Named is rising again, the Order is crumbling, Muggles are being killed, and there is utter chaos everywhere.

Harry leaves his old home to go on a quest entrusted to him, Hermione and Ron by Dumbledore. The quest involves destroying certain magical objects in order to defeat You-Know-Who. On their way, Harry and his friends learn about the Deathly Hallows and their mysterious powers. In the end, The Boy Who Lived meets Lord Voldemort in a showdown that must see only one of two forces triumph.

From the start, I had only one feeling: excitement. The plot was magnificent, and most of the chapters were action-packed.

However, I couldn't help feeling that there were also quite a few chapters that seemed mere fillers and they made the story, at some point, dragging.



But, the buildup to the ending was so suspense-filled that despite the fillers, the seventh book was, as my Mom loves to say, "un-putdownable." With all the action, humor, adventure and mystery, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows" is certainly one of the best in J.K. Rowling's series.

One of the reasons I couldn't put down the book is it finally reveals the truth behind Snape. Is he friend or foe? That part alone makes buying your own copy worthwhile.

I noticed, however, that Rowling changed her tone in this book. In books 1 to 6, she wrote in a way that was suitable for all ages. Now, she has a lot of characters uttering bad words that would make conservative parents disapprove.

Over all though, the plus points far outweigh the minuses. The last few chapters, in particular, are so thrilling—like watching a movie while on the edge of your seat.

As a Harry Potter and Rowling fan, I was not disappointed. This is an epic tale that will be enjoyed by many more generations to come. And best of all, the entire series has brought the fun in reading to many children and grownups.

WELCOME TO MY CORRAL!

This is your own special space, where you can express your thoughts and feelings about anything under the sun in the form of essays, poems, letters and even illustrations!

Send all contributions to ji@inquirer.com.ph. Don't forget to indicate your full name, age and the city where you live. We'll be waiting!

Kayla Sy, 7

Adrian Sy, 5

OUR CATS

Journal

By Mary Angela D. Gomez
8 years old, Sta. Ana, Manila

I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU A STORY about our cats.

When I was a little girl, we found a kitten. We named him Catty.

Catty was an adorable kitten. He meowed when he was hungry; he purred when he wanted to sleep.

Then along came Blue Eyes. I believe she belonged to our neighbor.

Blue Eyes was white with brown spots on her ears and on her belly. That's why we called her Blue Eyes.

Later, Blue Eyes gave birth to 5 kittens. They were so many that we gave 3 of them to our neighbors.

After a year, Blue Eyes gave birth to another kitten, Kiko.

Kiko, I think, was the most playful of all the kittens. He loved pulling strings. He liked eating bread in the morning. He would jump all over the place, and purr loudly when hungry.

However, Blue Eyes gave birth again. The father this time was not Catty, but our neighbor's cat: Black Eye.

Black Eye is a big fat cat. His eyes are green and he has nice white fur. Although he is a friendly cat, Kiko is not a friend of his. They would purr angrily at each other. They would stare each time they meet in the garden. I think they are cat enemies.

I love all the cats at home.

I love them because I feel they love being with people. Each time I give them food, they "say" thank you by brushing their cheeks against my feet. They always come near me.

The cats at home make me happy. And I love them very much. I wonder: isn't loving cats a way of getting nearer to God?

Junior INQUIRER

GRACE M LEUNG
Editorial Consultant
LYNETT A. VILLARIBA
Design Consultant
LIZ RAÑOLA
Art Director
RUTH L. NAVARRA
Staff Writer
DIANNE M. VILLAFUERTE
Editorial Assistant
STEPHANIE BRAVO
Illustrator
CHITO SAN MATEO
Marketing Officer
MYLENE DE JESUS
Sales Officer

THE JUNIOR INQUIRER is published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer on each Sunday of the month.
E-mail: ji@inquirer.com.ph
Office address: Philippine Daily Inquirer Building, Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, Philippines
Telephone number: 897-8808 loc. 340 (Editorial) and 534 (Sales).
Snail mail: P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines.

2005 Best Children's Newspaper Awards Hall of Fame

HARRY POTTER
and the Deathly Hallows

Essay Contest

WIN THIS!

Even Muggles can wear this cool jacket! All you have to do is write an essay that answers this question: Which Harry Potter character affected you the most?

All essays should have only 200-300 words. Writers should be aged 7 to 14.

Send all entries, with the subject heading "Harry Potter Essay Contest," to ji@inquirer.com.ph on or before August 7 at 12 noon. Entries submitted after that will not be accepted, even if they're sent through owls. Don't forget to indicate your full name, age, city, and contact numbers.

Only 5 winners will be chosen, so make sure you make JK Rowling proud!

Want to get to know other JI readers like you? Want to write to our Snoops? Or do you simply want to be the first to know about JI promos? Join our yahoogroup! Just send a blank e-mail to jireaders-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

By Denise Anne Castro
11 years old
Quezon City

JI SNOOPS

A recipe for fun

PICTURE THIS: A DELICIOUS omelet of sautéed boletus mushrooms and shallots, garnished with sprig chervil and drizzled with coulis, served right in front of you at a table in a fancy French restaurant. You ask to have a word with the chef to express your delight, and they bring in... a rat! Eew. But as you run for the nearest exit, you say to yourself, "Man! The food was really good!"

Well, this is exactly what the latest Disney Pixar movie, Ratatouille (pronounced rat-a-too-ee) is all about.

The movie is about Remy, a rat who dreams of becoming a world-famous chef despite the fact that those of his kind are unwanted in a kitchen. He finds himself in Gusteau's, a world renowned restaurant. Will his dreams of becoming a culinary legend finally come true? With the help of Linguini, a garbage boy at Gusteau's, he just might achieve his goal!

Aside from having a fantastic story and endearing characters, the best thing about Ratatouille was its brilliant animation.

The scenes are so realistic that most of the time, you will forget that you're watching an animated movie. I was impressed to see the fabulous city of Paris. While I watched food being served in Gusteau's, I really felt kind of hungry. The chase through the busy kitchen and a trip through the sewer system kept me excited, the action was a real treat for the eyes!

Grownups will be glad to know that they will enjoy it too—it's not just a kid flick. It can be appreciated by Mom, Dad and even Grandpa, as the humor for some scenes are more adult than kiddie.

Overall, Ratatouille is a yummy recipe for family fun. It's entertaining and keeps you interested with the story's twists and turns. The story teaches lessons about family, love and friendship, and imparts encouraging and enlightening messages.

This is one movie that will surely satisfy your appetite!

WassUp World?

Qingha, CHINA

Art is cool

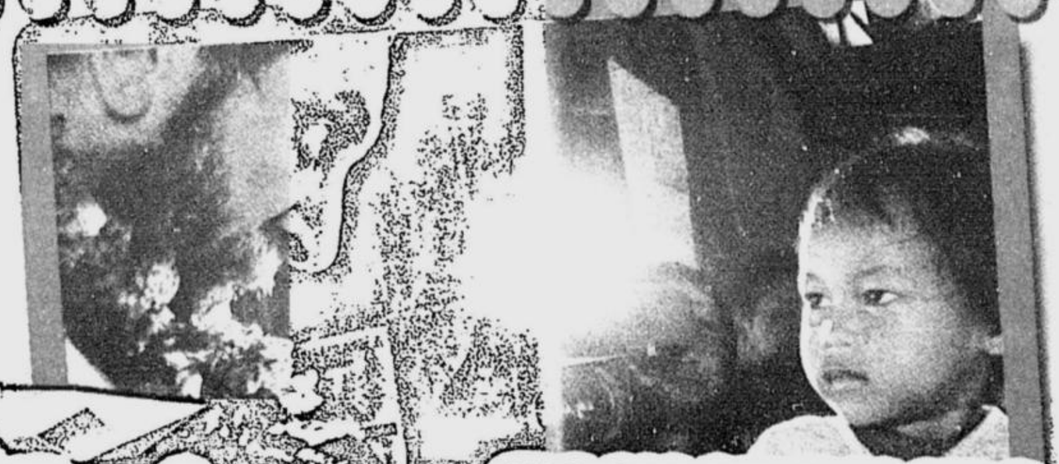
WHAT better way to celebrate art than to wear well-crafted clothes and accessories? This child is wearing a traditional costume for the Tibetan Kangba Art Festival in Yushu county. The five-day art festival provides visitors with folk performances, costume displays and horse races, local media reported. **Reuters**

Srinagar, INDIA

Where's the water?

RAW sewage, misuse of land and years of neglect have been threatening the survival of Dal lake in Srinagar. Famous visitors like Mughal emperors and George Harrison once enjoyed the idyllic stillness of its waters surrounded by Himalayan mountains. **Reuters**

Zamboanga, PHILIPPINES



Sad farewell

FATHER Giancarlo Bossi, an Italian priest who was kidnapped and released recently, tirelessly kissed the hands of children and spent quality time with his parishioners before saying goodbye. Bossi said that "...deep inside me, I am crying inside." **Julie S. Alipala / Inquirer Mindanao**

Tokyo, JAPAN

Ice bowl

A BOWLING ball strikes bowling pins made of ice during the opening ceremony of a summer festival in central Tokyo. A local bowling association is supporting the festival to increase interest in the sport. **AFP**

Guimaras, PHILIPPINES

Bye, turtle!

RESIDENTS of Brgy. Lawi in Jordan, Guimaras, release an Olive Ridley turtle found feeding in nearby waters. The area is rich in sea grass, the main food of turtles. Olive Ridley is one of the smallest turtles found in the country. **Arnold Almacen / Inquirer Visayas**

London, UK

D'oh, it's the Simpsons!

HOMER and Bart Simpson wave at fans during the premiere of "The Simpsons Movie" in London. Eighteen years after Bart's first invitation to eat his shorts, America's most dysfunctional cartoon family is heading for Hollywood. Initially appearing as a segment on Tracey Ullman's television show, "The Simpsons" became a half-hour sitcom. **AFP**

Think Out Loud!

How do you deal with bullies?

I'll tell my teacher or principal about them.—**Juan Carlos Adorable**, 12, Quezon City

I will stand up to them by telling them that they're bothering me.—**Rocio Puno**, 9, Alabang

I will tell my friends about it and then try to forget about it.—**Isabel de la Merced**, 11, Quezon City

I will walk away from them and then report it to a teacher.—**Joshua Peña**, 11, Quezon City

I won't pay any attention to them *para walang gulo.*—**Justin Cioson**, 12, Manila

I will do my best to befriend them so I won't have enemies.—**Hershey Neri**, 11, Quezon City

Name the impossible dream!

French rat Remy's greatest passion in life is to become a gourmet chef!

Congratulations to the JI readers who won in our Impossible Dream promo!

Carl Anthon D. Camama, 8, Kawit, Cavite
Kara Danielle E. Medina, 13, Sampaloc, Manila
Michelle B. Villanueva, 13, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
Trisha Jane N. Lacerna, 9, Davao City
Anna Mercedes D. Lopez, 10 , Balayan, Batangas
Antoni Martiniano Acuzar, 12, Bauan, Batangas
Celline Margie Mercado, 10, San Fernando, Pampanga
Julie Ann B. Perito, 12, Dasmariñes, Cavite
Denise Maisie Joven, 11, Cainta, Rizal
Jericho Ricafort, 8, Mandaluyong City

Please call 897-8808 loc. 340 and look for Ate Dianne or email jj@inquirer.com.ph to find out how you can claim your prize!

subscribe to spark MAGAZINE and watch your world expand!

spark

Bringing Out the Fun in Science

AND I, *CAPTAIN CRANIUM*, WILL ANSWER YOUR BAFFLING QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR WORLD, AND BEYOND!

subscribe now!

Be part of a whole world of wonders and discoveries!

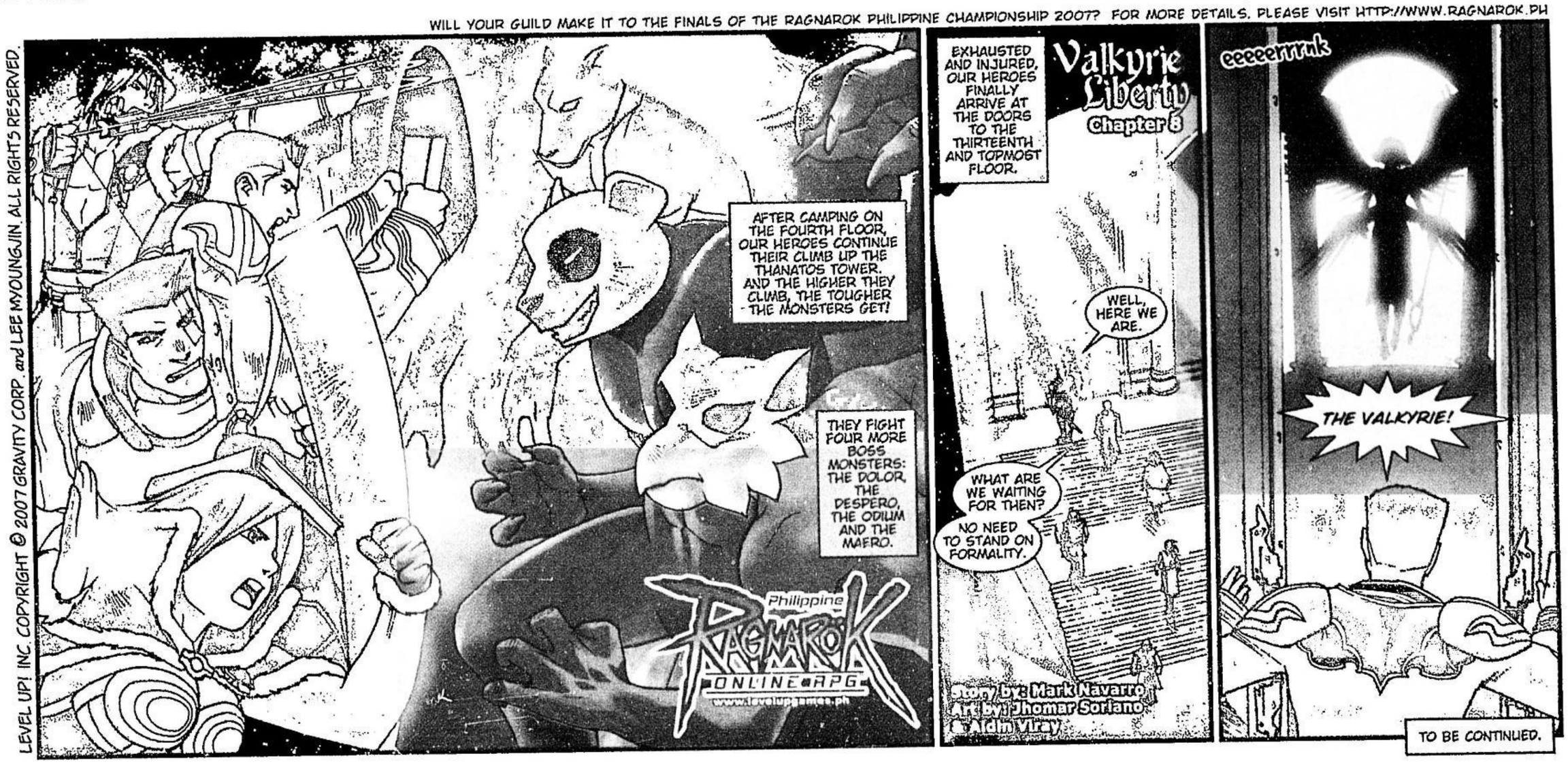
PHP 180 2 ISSUES

PHP 360 4 ISSUES

Call 759-2286 now or email hipcards@hip.ph for details

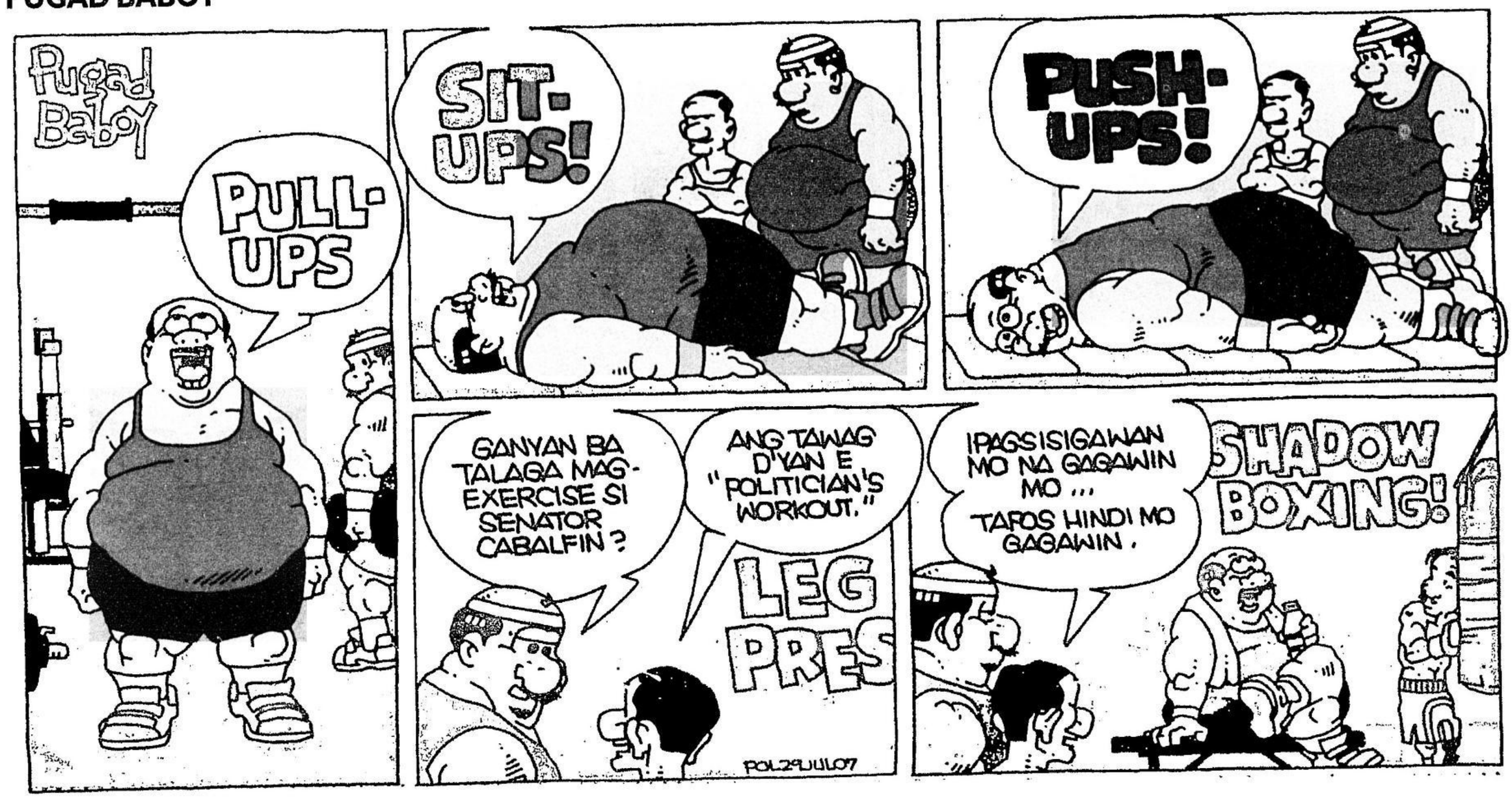
RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL-UP GAMES



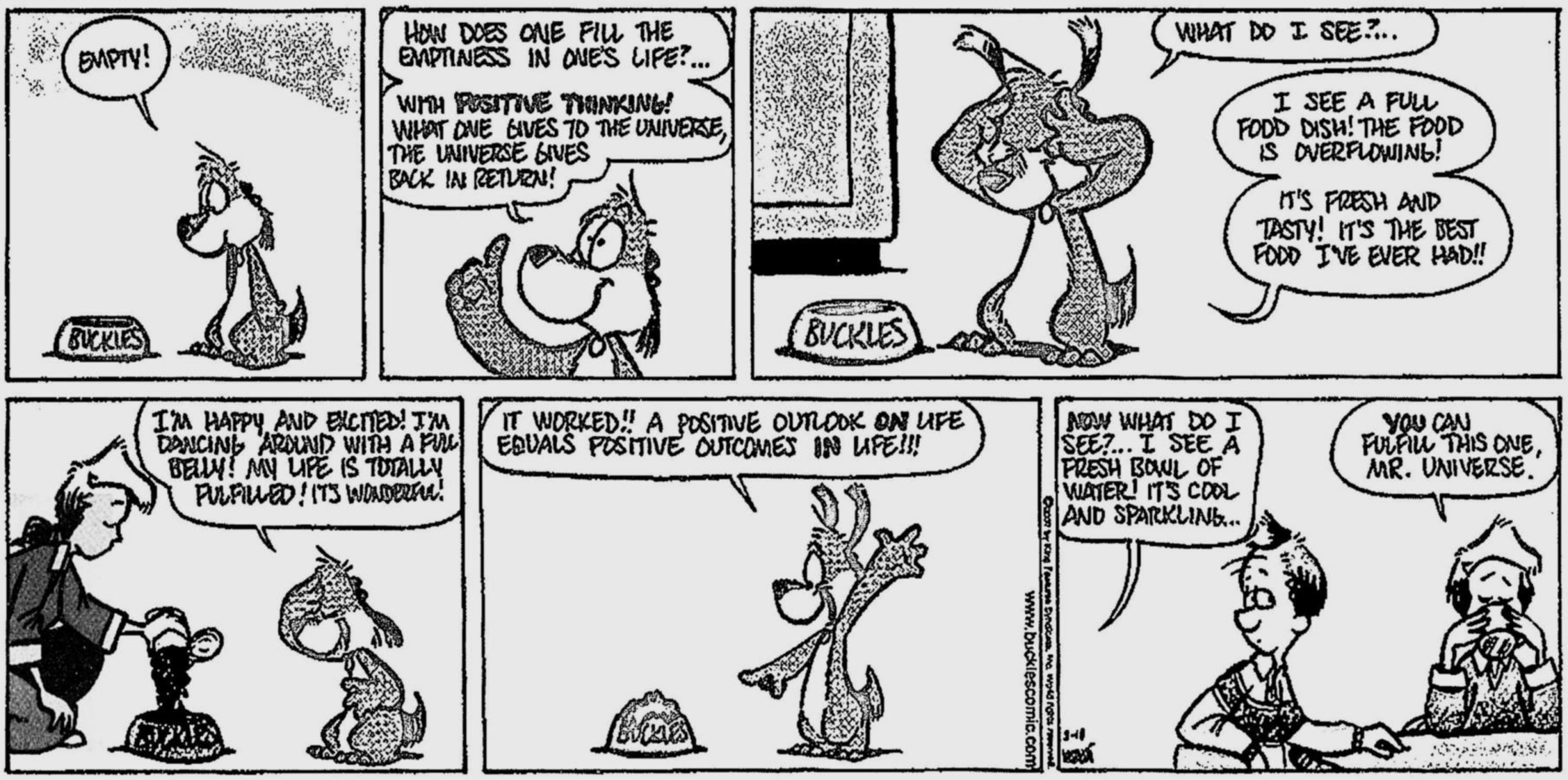
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.



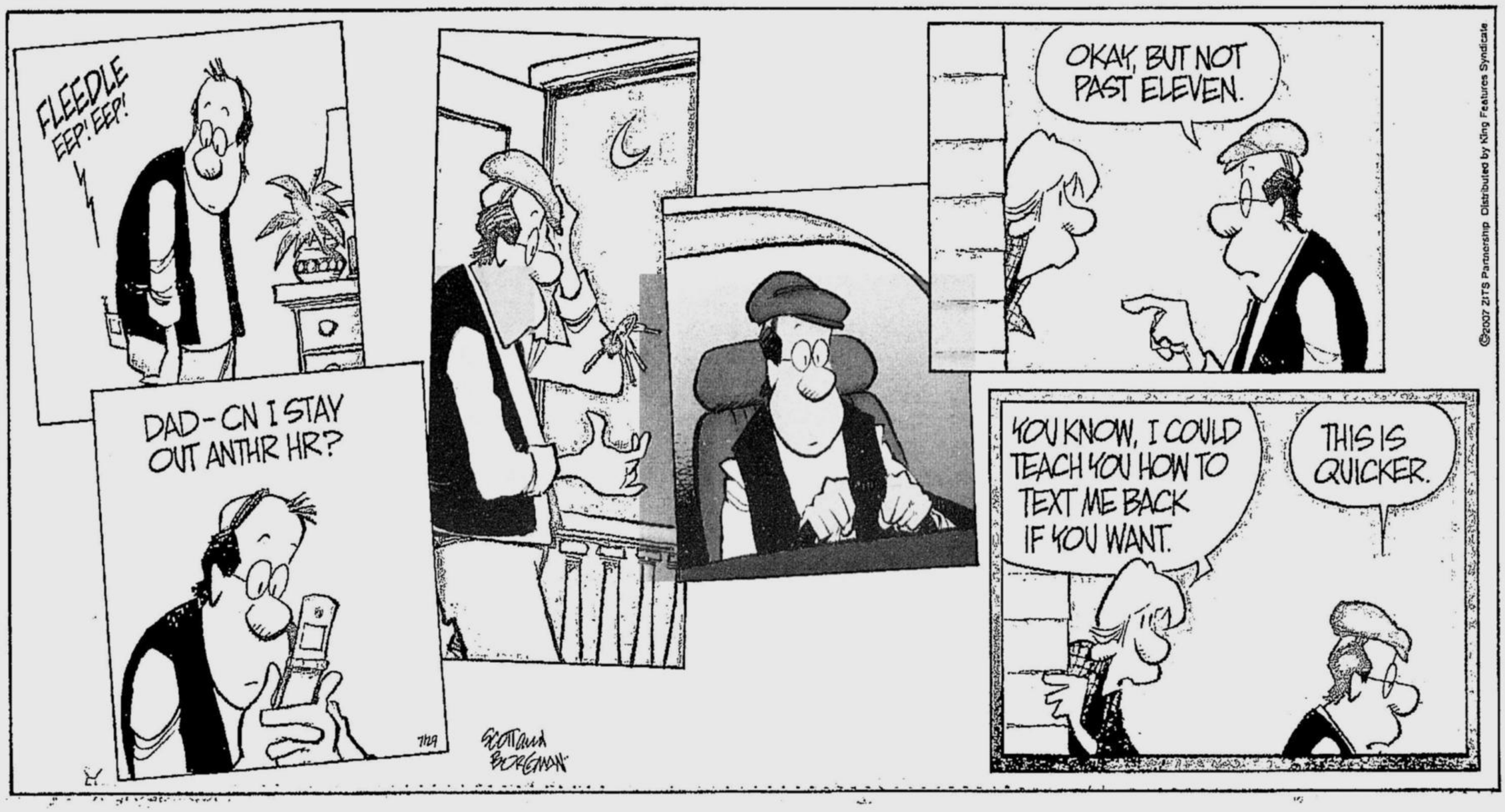
BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT



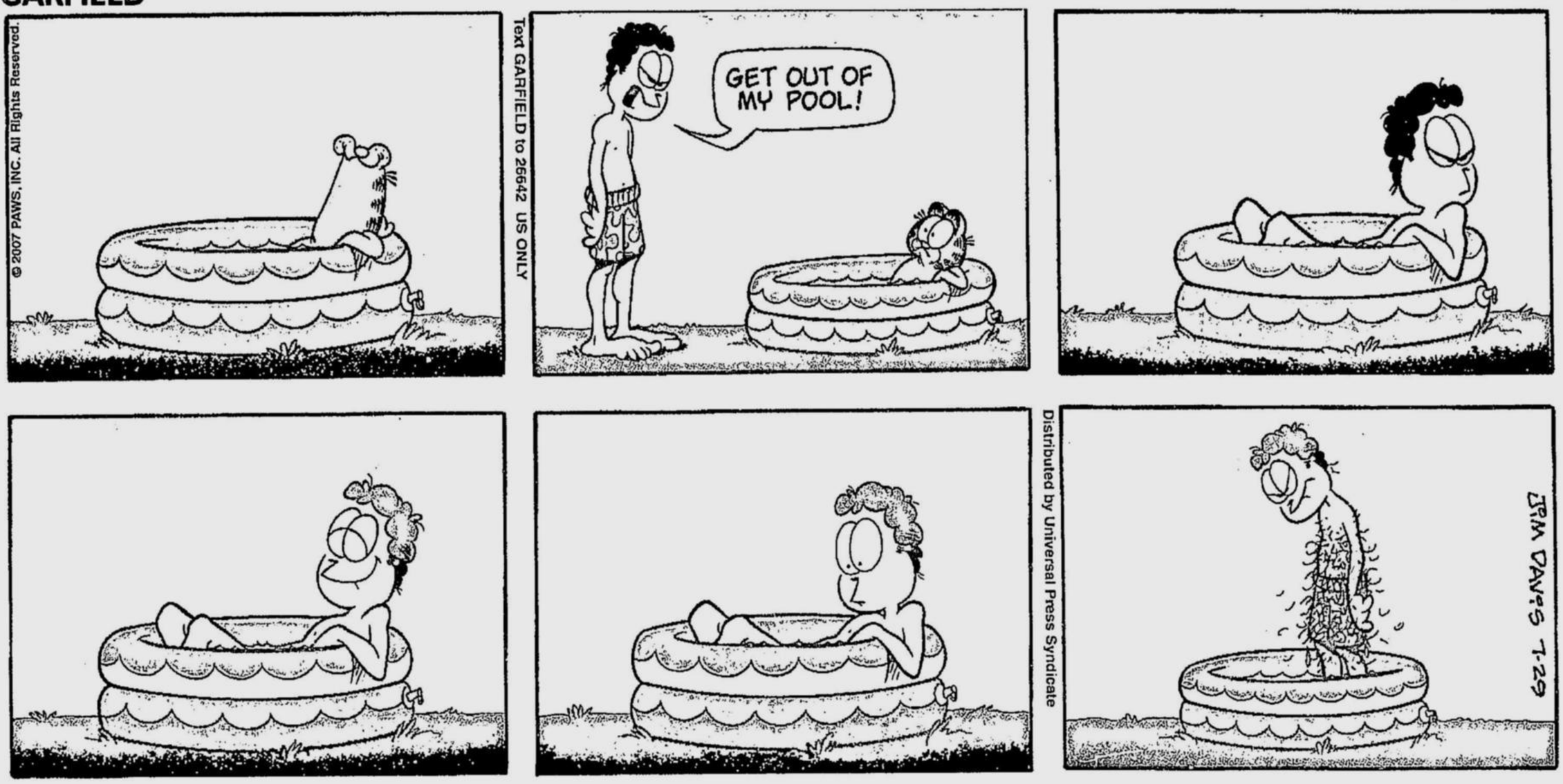
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



© 2007 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Text GARFIELD to 26642 US ONLY
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate

FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO

sunday INQUIRER magazine
July 29, 2007

FREE

A Study in Skarlet

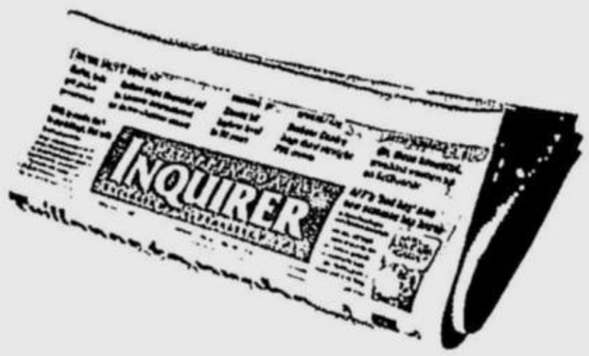
plus Web Wonder • Doctor's Diversion • Home Hopes • More!

It's BIGGER than you think.

Who would have thought something so small would make it so big? Nielsen Media Research reports that Sunday Inquirer Magazine is now the No. 1 weekend magazine in the country. Big thanks to you, our readers.

Source: Nielsen Media Index 2007 Wave 1.
Based on urban national yesterday broadsheet readers

The view from the top is amazing.



According to Nielsen Media Research,
Philippine Daily Inquirer is once again at the very top.
Thanks, of course to you, our readers for bringing us here.
Stay with us, we won't let you down.
To subscribe, call 896-6000.

Source Nielsen Media Index 2007 Wave 1 Based on urban national yesterday broadsheet readers

By Monette Quiogue

Movies + Music = Magic

Music just makes the movie experience so much better. Each time you listen to a soundtrack, it's like seeing—and enjoying—the movie again

WHO can forget Sandy (Olivia Newton John) finally shedding her good girl image to the tune of "You're the One that I Want" in "Grease"? Remember the Little Mermaid Ariel wanting to be "Part of Your World," or Mulan looking at her "Reflection"?

Movies are always more—more romantic, more exciting, more touching—with a good soundtrack. Whether it's a musical score from James Horner, or a song from Barry Gibb and his brothers, a soundtrack just makes the movie experience better. And each time you hear music from the movies any time later, it's as though you're seeing the film anew. Check out these soundtracks and experience movie and music magic all over again:

1. **Moulin Rouge**
A creative reinvention of popular songs like the Police's "Roxanne" and Madonna's "Like a Virgin" and new compositions like "Come What May" provide a touching and tormenting musical backdrop to the tragic love story of Christian and Satine.

2. **The Sound of Music**
"Do-Re-Mi," "Sixteen Going on Seventeen," "Maria," "So Long," "Farewell," "Edelweiss"... need I say more?

3. **A Walk to Remember**
Jamie and Landon's love story would not have been complete without Jamie's performance of "Only Hope" during the school play. The Mandy Moore-Jonathan Foreman remake of the '80's duet, "Someday We'll Know" brought new life to an old song. These, plus other great vocals by Switchfoot and Mandy herself, makes it a CD you'll listen to many, many, many times.

4. **Anastasia**
Often forgotten among other animated films like "Beauty and the Beast" or "Happy Feet". The soundtrack of "Anastasia" includes such gems as Aaliyah's "Journey to the Past" and the Donna Lewis-Richard Marx duet, "At the Beginning," with, in my opinion, one of the most romantic lines ever, "In the end I want to be standing at the beginning with you." (Cue: sigh from audience)

5. **Saturday Night Fever**
The film that launched John Travolta to superstar status also launched one of the biggest-selling movie soundtracks of all time. It includes such Bee Gees' hits as the disco classics "Staying Alive", "More Than a Woman", "Night Fever," and Yvonne Elliman's "If I Can't Have You." Its sequel, "Staying Alive," although not as big a box-office hit, also had some keepers like "Never Gonna Give You Up" by Frank Stallone and Cynthia Rhodes.

"The Sound of Music"

"Moulin Rouge"

"Saturday Night Fever"

6. **My Best Friend's Wedding**
With songs like Diana King's version of "I Say a Little Prayer," every single girl's anthem, "Wishin' and Hopin'," and one of the best-loved songs of all time, "The Way You Look Tonight" by Tony Bennett himself, no wonder this soundtrack is part of everyone's CD collection. My personal favorite track? Amanda Marshall's, "I'll Be Okay." It's a hopeful, optimistic take on heartbreak... go figure.

7. ***Sana'y Wala Nang Wakas***
The theme song composed by the master himself, Willy Cruz, has become an anthem for many, sung over and over and over again in videoke bars all over the country.

8. **Fame**
The film about the High School for Performing Arts gave birth to a soundtrack that, in my book, is a classic. You'll find unforgettable ballads like "Out Here on My Own" and "Is it Okay if I Call You Mine." Plus the ultimate graduation song, "I Sing the Body Electric," and, of course, Irene Cara belting out the title song. This album will definitely live forever. Fame!

9. **Valley Girl**
This movie had such a low budget, it originally didn't have a soundtrack. Thank goodness one was released. The soundtrack featured what eventually became the ultimate '80s new wave anthem, "I Melt with You" by Modern English. Plus other songs that helped define the decade, "Love My Way." "Who Can It Be Now," and "Jukebox."

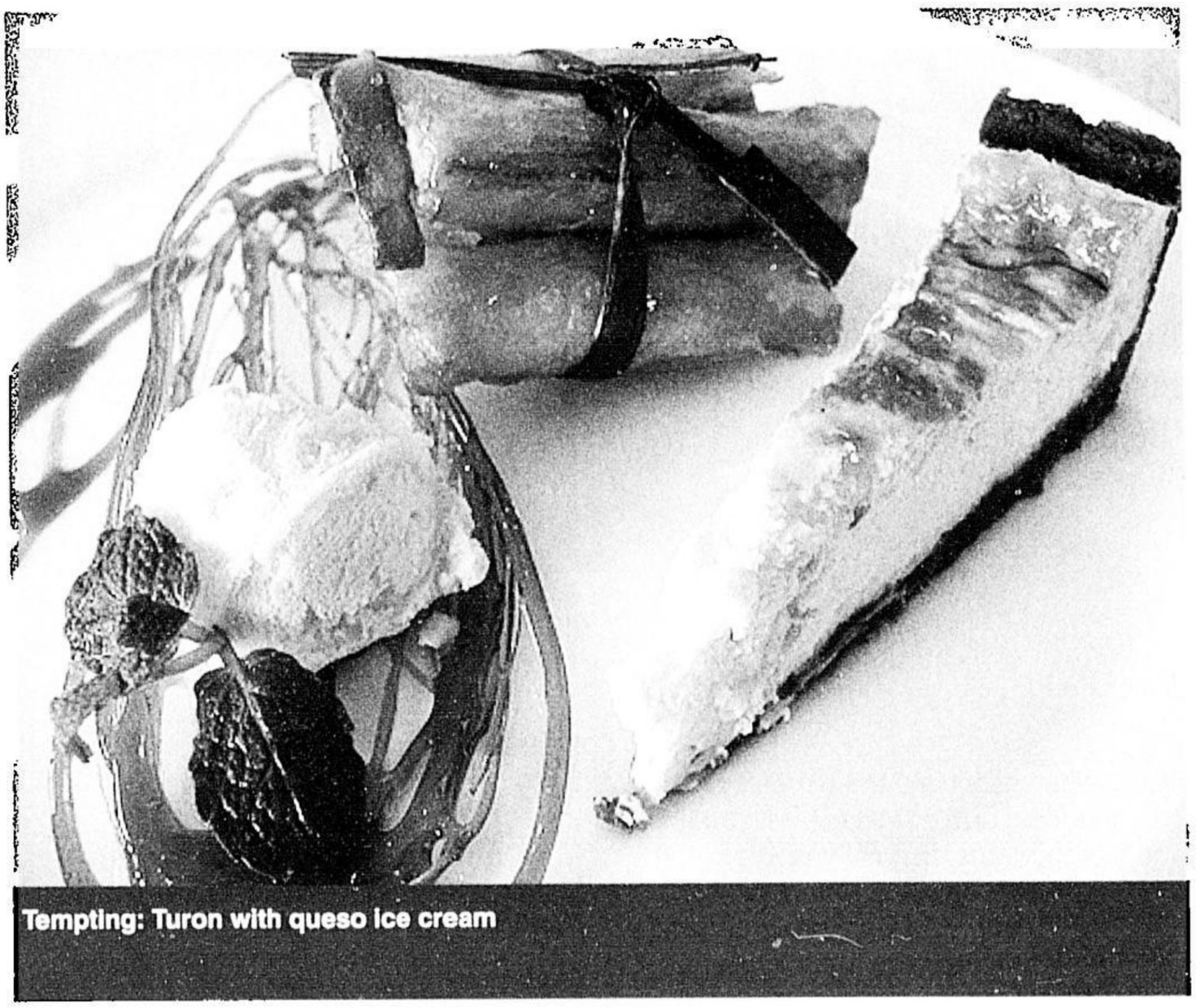
10. **The Mission**
Ennio Morricone waves his baton and creates movie magic with this soundtrack that uplifts and inspires, music you can listen to over and over again. This is yet another masterpiece from the genius who created the music for "The Untouchables" and "Cinema Paradiso."

Some other movie music you should also check out: "Gary V at the Movies," a compilation of movie theme songs performed by Gary Valenciano. Even years later, they still sound good. "Classic Disney 60 Years of Music," a collection of theme songs from Disney films. And who could forget "High School Musical," the TV movie that's taken the world by storm? •

By Margaux Salcedo

A Ticket to Good Taste

The genius of Myrna Segismundo lies in her journey to culinary devotion



Tempting: Turon with queso ice cream

DOREEN Fernandez should be honored for reshaping the Philippine culinary landscape in the '70s and '80s to embody a greater appreciation of Philippine food. But for my generation, the thank you's go to Doreen's friends, the select few who keep the light of Doreen's brilliance burning and who are continually working to pass this light on to the next generation.

Among these friends is a culinary genius named Myrna Segismundo.

And I'm not going overboard with the word "genius." She is one of today's most respected chefs, as evidenced by the company she keeps: She is part of the Philippine Kulinarya Team, a select group of chefs including Glenda Barretto, Claude Tayag, Margarita Fores, Conrad Calalang and Jessie Sincioco, that has been burdened, or challenged or honored, depending on how you look at it, with the gargantuan task of standardizing Philippine cooking to meet "world class" levels. She also holds the luscious title of Director of Gastronomy for the Manila Ladies Branch of the International Wine and Food Society, of which she is a founding member, with the late Doreen Fernandez being founding vice-president.

The genius lies in her journey. Myrna Segismundo is not a formally schooled chef. She graduated with a degree not in Culinary Arts but in Hotel and Restaurant Administration from the University of the Philippines. And though she paid her hospitality management dues at a number of prestigious hotels in New York City from the time she acquired her BA, she never worked as a cook or as a chef in any of these hotels. She managed the coffee shop at the Sheraton and worked the front desk at the Waldorf Astoria.

She did, however, devour the Big Apple and its amazing dining environment. She educated herself by experiencing the best of the best cuisines, gaining great advantage over schooled chefs by acquiring and honing something more important than technique: taste. Today, she would advise aspiring chefs not to limit themselves to the confines of their cooking schools because, she says, "travel is the best teacher."

The chef in Myrna Segismundo was born when she signed on as general manager of the Sign of the Anvil, the corporate dining restaurant of then-PCI Bank on Dela Costa Street in Salcedo Village. She was "suddenly at the helm" of operations, with the inclusive duty of designing a menu. Instead of cowering at the challenge, she took it full on and, in her words, "*ouidoed*" her way to becoming Anvil's executive chef. Like a real captain, she gathered her team and dictated her action plan: "We will be honest with each other and have no pretensions. You tell me what your teachers taught you and I will tell you, based on what I taste and by going back to the books, whether what you are serving is cooked correctly and tastes right."

Her action plan proved that honesty is indeed the best policy. Needing a benchmark against which to gauge her Anvil-acquired cooking skills, she joined Chefs on Parade, the Asean's biggest and oldest culinary competition. She may have surpassed even her own expectations as she won the competition and kept winning year after year after year, establishing her place in the industry not only as an efficient hotel and restaurant manager but also as a chef to contend with. Today she remains the highest-ranking undefeated restaurant awardee of Chefs on Parade.

When Equitable Bank merged with PCI, she was invited by the Lopezes to open ABS-CBN's own corporate dining restaurant. She accepted and has been 9501's managing director and executive chef since.

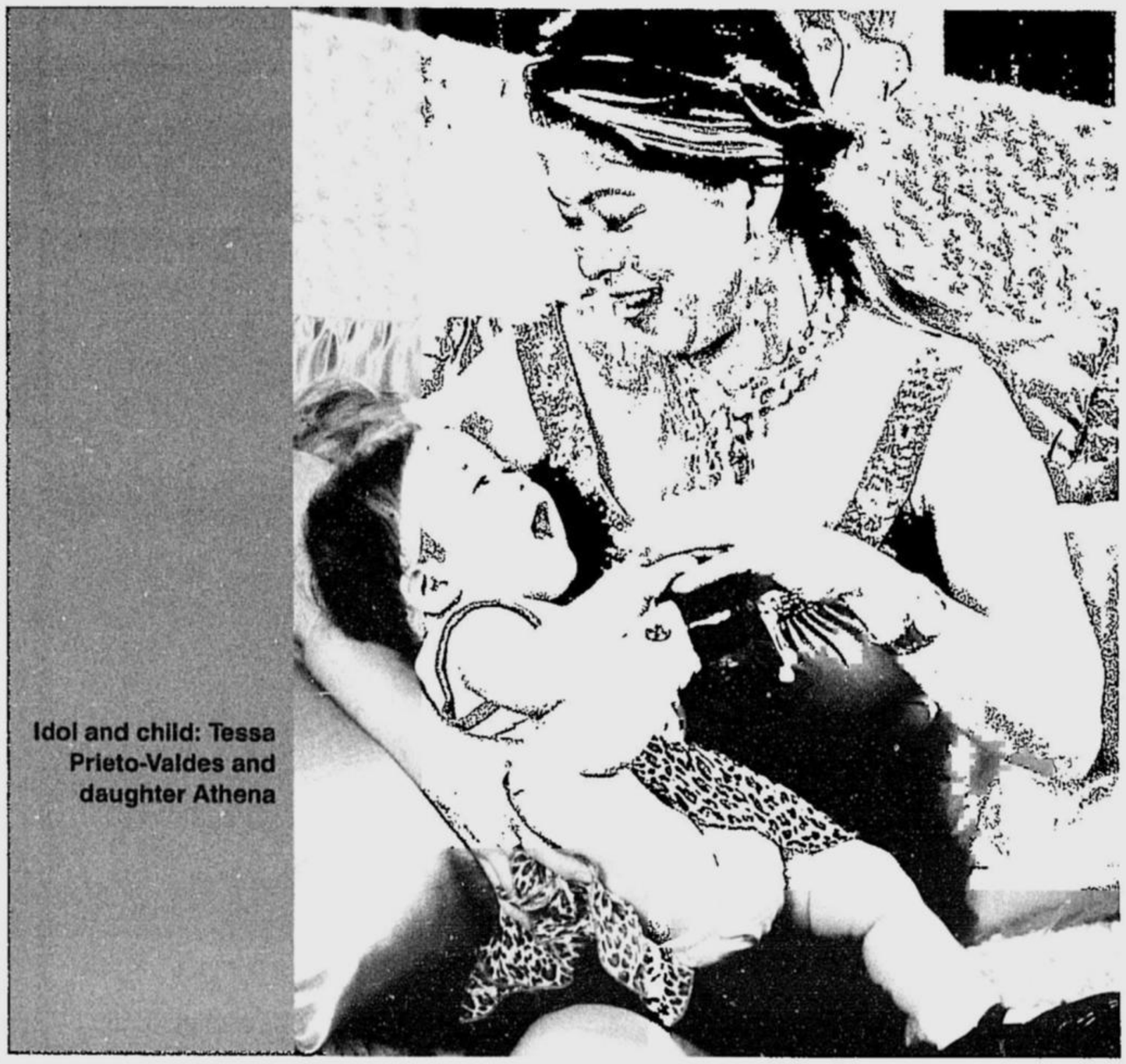
9501 is an exclusive restaurant that showcases Myrna Segismundo's talents both as restaurant manager and as chef. Located on the 14th floor of the ELJ Communications Center (or what we simply know as ABS-CBN), it would be a restaurant with a breathtaking view if Quezon City had a breathtaking skyline. At any rate, the food more than makes up for the third world environment beyond the

(continued on page 14)

Photos by Mandy Navasero

The Breast of All Worlds

A quick look at why mothers are being encouraged to breastfeed their children



Idol and child: Tessa Prieto-Valdes and daughter Athena

WE often associate the benefits of breastfeeding and breastmilk with infants and their mothers. But did you know that breastfeeding is, in fact, also good for the planet?

The benefits of breastfeeding for mother and baby—well, fathers, too, and Mother Earth—include the following:

1) Human milk is the best food for babies, since it contains the right amount of nutrients, in the right proportions, for the growing baby, which cannot be duplicated in any infant formula.

2) Mother's milk is the baby's first form of immunization. First milk, known as colostrum, protects baby from common respiratory and intestinal diseases and provides protection from developing immune system cancers. And babies from families with a tendency to allergic diseases particularly benefit from breastfeeding.

3) New growth charts from the World Health Organization (WHO) confirm that breastfed infants grow differently from formula-fed babies. Breastfed infants grow faster initially, then slow down as they approach their first birthday. But people artificially fed as infants go on to have a higher risk of obesity as adults.

4) More and more research is showing that breastfeeding leads to optimal brain development. While there are behavioral aspects to this, the milk is important, too. And all breastfed babies tend to spend a lot of their time in the "quiet alert" state, which is most conducive to learning.

5) Breastfeeding has other special benefits for prematurely born infants. Premature breastmilk contains different amounts of some nutrients than term breastmilk, more suited to the needs of premature babies. For some babies, breastfeeding is a life-and-death matter. Suckling at the breast, and digesting breast milk, cause less stress for the premature infant than bottle-feeding does; so most prematures can go to breast as soon as they are able to suckle.

6) The act of breastfeeding is beneficial as well to both mother and baby. Not only that, but it is a joyful, relaxing experience. Healthier babies are less stressful to care for, and the decreased medical costs are a boon to the family. Furthermore, the optimal neurological and intellectual development provide potential long-term benefits to the family.

7) Another well-documented benefit of breastfeeding is more rapid and sustained weight loss for mothers. Milk production uses up 200-500 calories a day. To burn off an equivalent number of calories, a bottle-feeding mother would need to swim 30 laps or ride a bicycle for over an hour. In our opinion, breastfeeding is definitely easier!

8) Far from being a risk factor for osteoporosis, breastfeeding may actually protect against it. Current medical literature demonstrates that not only is the loss in bone density during breastfeeding temporary, reverting to normal after weaning, but that bones may actually be stronger after prolonged breastfeeding.

9) Breastfeeding benefits fathers, too. First, and most straightforward, breastfed babies have less offensive dirty diapers. Fathers benefit from having a healthy baby, and can play with, snuggle, and bathe the baby as their relationship develops. Dads generally also appreciate the impact on the family budget of lower health care costs, fewer sick days, and lack of need to buy formula.

10) Breastfeeding is good for the environment. Breastfeeding is a completely natural, efficient use of resources. In contrast, artificial feeding involves overgrazing of land by cattle; use of chemical fertilizers to grow the soy; use of valuable environmental resources for formula production; packaging and transportation of the product; use of water and fuel for mixing the product and heating it, for sterilizing bottles and nipples; waste

(continued on page 14)

By Zhao Song

Once in A Lifetime

A visiting Chinese student discovers the joy of building houses for the less fortunate at the Gawad Kalinga Bayani Challenge

Happy builder: Zhao Song at the Bayani Challenge

I NEVER expected to be a hero. But I think that I have become one—along with many others.

I learned about Gawad Kalinga during my first trip to the Philippines last year. I was working towards my bachelor's degree in Philippine Studies at Beijing University and the trip was to understand more about the Philippines, the country that I had been studying for four years.

During the trip, my classmates and I went to Baseco to see the GK villages there. I was greatly impressed when I saw the kids in Baseco playing in front of their small but colorful houses, especially when I was told that the place used to be one of the biggest squatter colonies in Metro Manila. I then decided that if I had the chance to study in the Philippines, I would do a study on GK.

After college, I pursued graduate studies, also focusing on the Philippines, and got a six-month scholarship grant at the Ateneo de Manila University last January. So I came back and was well prepared to do research on GK.

The first three months I spent in GK villages in Baseco, Payatas and in Escalante, Negros Occidental. I conducted surveys with families in these villages and interviewed some GK coordinators and volunteers. But I did not realize how rewarding it was to be actually part of the effort until I actually joined the Gawad Kalinga Isang Milyong Bayani Bicol Challenge.

It was at a GK-Ateneo regular meeting that I learned about the event: April, just after Holy Week, outside Manila, somewhere in the Bicol Region. I immediately signed up.

On the day we left Manila, it became apparent to me that this was not going to be a casual hanging-out volunteer work. As my teammates and I loaded our tools onto the bus before departure—shovels, pickaxes, pails, brushes—that's when I began to realize that something extraordinary was about to happen to me.

GK is a nationwide poverty-alleviation movement that relies heavily on volunteerism. It aims to build decent houses for people living in squatter areas and provide them with systematic assistance in order to get them out of squatter conditions—not only physically but mentally—and move to a better life, a life of hope and dignity.

The GK 1M Bayani Challenge is a yearly GK voluntary event when people from all over the country converge in a poverty-stricken place and work together for a week to build GK houses. Last year the Bayani Challenge was in Leyte, where many lives and homes had been lost in a devastating mudslide. This year the GK event was in Bicol, after typhoon Reming had wreaked havoc in the province.

When my teammates and I arrived in Bicol, I began to worry about the inconveniences that I expected to face. The heat, the scarcity of water, the absence of toilets, the rocky ground that we would have to sleep on, the canned food that would be our daily fare, and so on. But I gained strength from my teammates, and that kept me sane for the whole week.

I remembered sharing a meal with them. Fifteen of us had plain rice and three dishes: corned beef, corned beef and corned beef. Actually we decided to have only one dish but while cooking, we realized that the cans we brought were of

(continued on page 12)

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photographs by Ryan Lim

A Study in Skarlet

Formerly known as Myra Ruaro, the energetic frontwoman of the late, lamented Put3ska band, Skarlet brings a much-needed shot of adrenaline to the sit-down-and-nod-politely jazz lounge crowd

JOHN Lennon was said to have once derided jazz as "beer drinking music."

No doubt he was referring to the British "trad" (traditional) variety that the Beatles all but wiped off the face of the earth. But let's face it, compared to stage-diving punk rockers, jazz fans are a pretty staid bunch. They might tap their feet once in a while, but that's about it.

All that might change.

With her debut album "The Powder Room Stories" (Candid), jazz chanteuse Skarlet brings a little bit of punk spunk to the mix. It's not so much in the music—a mix of originals and covers as diverse as Blondie's "Call Me" and Ani Montano's feminist marching song "*Babae Ka*"—as it is in the attitude and the presentation.

As one enthralled new fan described her:

In the end, "The Powder Room Stories" finds Skarlet's metamorphosis complete

"She's mannered in an Eartha Kitt way doing Ella Fitzgerald-style standards—all in an Asian Bettie Page package." *Mismo* (Exactly). Oozing retro-kitsch glamor in her vintage threads, Skarlet brings a much-needed shot of adrenaline to the sit-down-and-nod-politely jazz lounge crowd.

But while Skarlet might come as a breath of fresh air to local jazz audiences, it's nothing new to the hardcore following who first knew her as Myra Ruaro, the energetic frontwoman of the late lamented Put3Ska, standard-bearers of the local ska scene. Casual listeners might remember "Manila Girl," the single and music video that broke them through from cult status to, well, slightly bigger cult status. Two albums later, Myra left Put3Ska and began the slow transformation into Skarlet. In hindsight, her next band, the Brownbeat Allstars, was a transitional stage into her current incarnation as a full-blown jazz songstress.

"Even during the Put3Ska days, some of us would go and listen to the Ugoy-Ugoy Band," she says. "We were into soul and jazz because we knew how they were connected to ska."

It all came together when, during one Brownbeat gig with veteran jazz musicians the Jazz Friends, her band members got lost on the way to the party.

"To buy them some time, I decided to jam with the Jazz Friends on the few standards I knew, like 'Stormy Weather,' 'Moon River,' 'The Nearness of You.' "

After the gig, the pianist told her that her voice had "an old sound." As it turned out, the Jazz Friends were looking for a vocalist, and Skarlet found herself immersed in the heretofore unexplored world of Pinoy jazz, singing with the likes of JR Cobb, Bluesviminda and WDOUJI at venues like the old Monk's Dream. She also had a chance to perform with her idols, the Ugoy-Ugoy Band, as one of the featured vocalists in "The Real Swing," a full-blown concert.

"It was cosmic that it came at that time, because I was ruining my voice belting three sets a night with Brownbeat," she recalls. "It's hard to sing and jump around at the same time. I was getting restless, and I knew this wasn't the right way to sing. That's why my throat was always sore, and I could hardly talk the next day."

She had started singing at La Scala, a restaurant that showcased "operatic" performances, before joining her first band, the gothic new wave outfit Ardourn Delirium. Combined with the Put3Ska and Brownbeat years, she had put a lot of mileage on her vocal chords. Learning to jam with jazz musicians was an immersion process that taught her, among other things, how to sing without damaging her pipes.

It was an education for her fellow musicians as well. A subculture mash-up, you might say.

"The thing with jazz is, they don't have scenesters," she says. "They would ask me, 'why do you have tattoos?', 'What's with those clothes?', and I'd have to explain about body modification and vintage style."

At the other end, she'd also have to explain to her rudeboy and skinhead fans what jazz was all about.

"And I thought it was hard trying to promote ska," she says. "It's a lot harder to promote jazz. I'd ask the older musicians, 'Why is our generation not open to this kind of music?'"

Subculture mash-up: Skarlet's many moods (above and below)

In the end, though, "The Powder Room Stories" finds Skarlet's metamorphosis complete.

"Jazz tests a singer when she jams and has to reinvent a song on the spot and follow the band leader," she adds. "We never practice, it's always on-the-spot arrangements, which I enjoy playing with any musician."

Proof of the success of the formula is Skarlet's inclusion in IKON Philippines, the preliminary stage of the Asean IKON talent contest which will be held in Malaysia this August. At stake is a top prize of $25,000 and a chance to perform on the Asean stage and beyond.

Contending for the top spot in the Philippines are eight solo artists and 10 bands, among them Skarlet, Grace Nono, Noel Cabangon, Vina Morales, Greyhoundz, the Dawn and Kjwan. The program airs Sunday evenings on RPN 9.

"The aim is to find another Anggun or Freddie Aguilar, music talents who can be exported worldwide," she says. •

By Hanna Lacsamana

The Tiger Lady As Teacher

Despite the remote location, a pioneering Cordillera principal opened a new universe of learning for her students via the web

Nilo Gabilo

Courtesy of MPGCHS

Wide web: Bontoc students can access the world (above); through the efforts of Evelyn Taguiba (left); new paths of learning open at MPGCHS (right)

BONTOC, MT. PROVINCE—The Mt. Province General Comprehensive High School (MPGCHS) sits in a valley rimmed by a mountain range that sets it apart from the world. But its principal, Evelyn Taguiba, put the rest of the world at the fingertips of her students.

This feat won for her the award as Cordillera's Most Outstanding Principal of 2006, given by the Civil Service Commission of the Cordillera Administrative Region.

Taguiba, 60, has been the principal of MPGCHS for the last six years, during which time she was able to overcome the setback of being located in a remote province, far from the reach of the world's rapid information technology strides. She recognized that to be in step with the times meant to be computer-literate and know what's going on in the world.

Books always took too long to be transported to the classrooms, that is if they even made it through the treacherous winding roads of formidable mountains. But now, Taguiba has made knowledge just a click away, by getting her school connected to the World Wide Web.

It was not an easy task, but Taguiba partnered with Microsoft which accepted MPGPHS to be part of its interconnected learning community. The grant given by the computer company included 10 computer units with internet access. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) also provided 15 additional computer units.

It is her belief that high-tech communication and the need to be in touch with the outside world is of high importance to keep upgrading the knowledge and skills of her teachers and students. Taguiba also sees to it that her teachers undergo regular training and challenges them to be innovative in their teaching strategies in order to make learning effective and efficient. So they also make use of the internet technology for fresh ideas to make their teaching approaches enjoyable and effective.

"We expose them to a lot of training and then get their commitment to echo their training to their colleagues," she says.

Always with room and heart for improvement, Taguiba also made MPGCHS part of the Smart Schools Program in 2005, which led to the upgrading and improvement of their school library. This community service program of Smart Communications,.Inc., which promotes information and computers technology by forging partnerships with public high schools, provided the school with two additional computers, which are now supervised by trained teachers who guide the students in their research works.

The library provides a reading room where students can sit on the floor to read and study, and has an ample collection of reference material and even a new set of Encyclopaedia.

Long before leaping into the intangible world of electronic connection, Taguiba had already taken smaller steps.

(continued on page 11)

The Tiger Lady As Teacher (from page 10)

Courtesy of MPGCHS

Her first project as principal of MPGCHS was to make it the first radio-based school in the Mt. Province. This allowed the school to be in touch with the other municipalities in the province and with Baguio City as well.

"Our mission is to prepare the students to survive in the ever changing outside world, so that when they graduate from high school and pursue their studies in the cities, they will be at par with others in training. This is where the need to be connected is very important, where the information they need are just waiting at their fingertips, even while they live a great distance from the cities," Taguiba explains.

Taguiba never dreamed of becoming a teacher, let alone a principal in charge of an entire high school of teachers and students. She had wanted to be a nurse, but her mother, who was a teacher herself, influenced her to follow her path.

After teaching English for several years, she was assigned to the Regional Department of Education as and education supervisor. But being confined in an office and not being able to teach hands-on was not her thing. She asked to be allowed back into the classroom—where she felt the action was . "'I want to do something. Just give me five years. If nothing happens, I will return to the office," she implored her superiors.

It was then that she applied, and was chosen, as one of only two scholars for a master's degree in Human Resource Studies in Australia from 1993 to 1994.

She came back to teach and in 1999, was nominated and became the principal of MPGCHS. It was a momentous year for the school that marked its transformation from being just another school in the far-flung town of Bontoc, Mt. Province into an internet-savvy school crossing great mountains invisibly for learning adventures in other parts of the world.

In her more than 20 years in the profession, Taguiba has come to be known as the "tiger lady," a strict, no-nonsense person who would ask any teacher to resign if they had no love for teaching. She always reminds her teachers to love their work, to give the students what they deserve, to give as they would give to their own children.

"You don't have any business teaching if you don't have the heart for it. If you lack the commitment, then it's better that you leave," Taguiba often tells other teachers.

But her love and concern for children show that inside the tiger lies a soft spot. She believes children need to get the best instruction they can, so they in turn would be able to pass on in the future what they have learned.

"You can't give what you don't have. We have to educate ourselves so we can educate others," Taguiba says. Her soft spot for children, despite having none of her own, stems from the care she gave her nephews and nieces. With them, she says, she already feels contented and fulfilled like a mother would.

She does not consider it a surprise that she is able to run a school with 1,273 high school students and 59 teachers to lead.

"Being single and not having a family of your own is not a gauge in one's ability to run the school. I can devote my time to it, because I consider it not only a job. This school is like a big family of my own. I feel fulfilled when students return and say to me they can never repay what I taught them. It's so nice to hear and know that," Taguiba says. **Women's Feature Service**

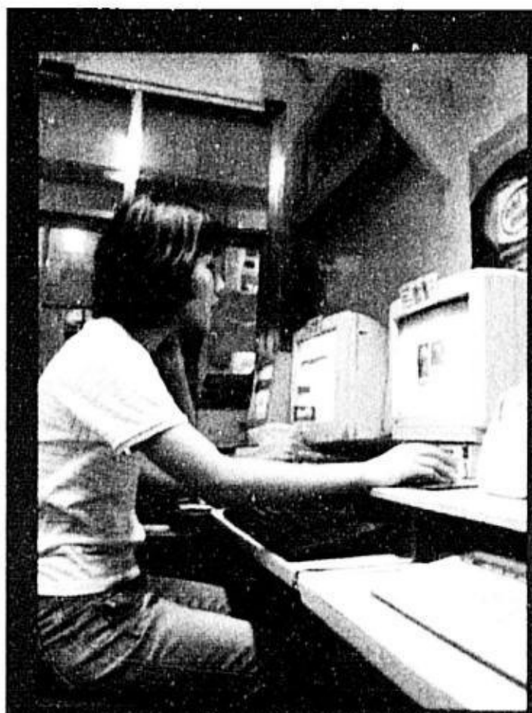


Figure It Out

7: Percentage among the 16.48 million Philippine households equipped with personal computers

4: In millions, estimated number of Internet users in the Philippines as of 2002

3: Number among every 50 public high school students with access to the Internet, as of 2005

12: Average number of hours that Filipinos 25 and under spend surfing the Internet in a week

37,794: Public schools to be connected to the Internet by the DepEd in the next three years; 90 percent of the total

82: College and graduate courses offered by 18 Philippine universities and colleges that use the Internet as the main medium for distance education

Compiled by: Schatzi Quodala, Inquirer Research
Sources: Young Filipino Internet Users Report, 2007, Inquirer Archives

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

					4			
		1			5	3		
8		4				5		6
2	7		4		8			
				6				
			5		9		3	7
4		9				6		1
		6	1			8		
			3					

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 7/29

© 2007 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Answer to previous puzzle

8	2	7	3	5	9	4	1	6
6	1	9	4	8	2	3	5	7
4	5	3	6	7	1	2	8	9
5	4	8	1	9	7	6	2	3
1	7	6	5	2	3	9	4	8
9	3	2	8	4	6	1	7	5
7	9	1	2	6	5	8	3	4
3	6	4	7	1	8	5	9	2
2	8	5	9	3	4	7	6	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★

*sunday*INQUIRER*magazine*
sim@inquirer.com.ph

Publisher: Leica R. Carpo
Executive Editor: Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Associate Editor: Ruel S. De Vera
Staff Writer: Eric S. Caruncho
Graphic Consultant: Paolo Viloria
Editorial Assistant: Sharon M. Felipe
Advertising and Sales Officer: Mylene de Jesus
Product Manager: Chito San Mateo

Cover: Skarlet
Photograph: Ryan Lim
Make-up by Yuki Geraldo for Make Up Forever
Hairstyle by Alberto M. Fuderanan III for CAS
Volume 20 No. 72 July 29, 2007
ISSN 0116-232X

ERRATA:

In the article "Turning Japanese: When Pinoy Otakus Attack," **SIM**, July 8, 2007, the writer inadvertently mentioned that the International NANA Day-Philippines was organized by Ongaku Society. SEVEN Pilipinas, the first seven NANA and Ai Yazawa fans who answered to the call for NANA Day organizers, was the organizer of International NANA Day-Philippines. In the same article, Ma. Jocelyn Bordador is not a moderator or administrator of Filcosplay forums. She is a moderator at Cosplay.ph, the website of which Filcosplay is the bulletin board. Bordador is only a member of Filcosplay and her responsibilities in Cosplay.ph do not extend to Filcosplay forums. Also, Ricki Buzon (Devastator) was erroneously referred to as a "bassist" when in fact he is a vocalist. **SIM** regrets the error.

Once In A Lifetime (from page 7)

Zhao: "The GK challenge was truly a unique experience for me."

different brands, so we thought it best not to mix them all together lest we end up with a weird-tasting dish.

I particularly recall that meal because when the cooking was done, no one ate or served himself first until every one of the team had come to the table. I did not know all of the other people's names then, but immediately I felt that I was part of a team. When everyone was there, we introduced ourselves and ate together. We became a family even before we started to work.

The real challenge for me came when my teammates and I started building houses. I helped dig a deep hole in the ground for the septic tank, and lay the foundation for the houses. I mastered this most important equation: bricks + cement = a wall. I stood in a human chain passing along the bricks and trekked long distances to fetch water in two large barrels.

I endured all these physical challenges, exhausted but happy at the thought that I was doing something significant for other people. In only five days of work, I had helped build a small house that would transform a family's life forever. It was a special kind of fulfillment I felt, knowing that I was helping people start a new life with dignity and full of hope.

The GK challenge was truly a unique experience for me. GK is an avenue offering hope for the people and for the country. Through this experience, I witnessed how people cooperated with one another to realize that hope. Although I had my share of low moments, especially during the strenuous physical work, I experienced great spiritual satisfaction.

The event also left me with fond memories of the people I had worked with. If preparing the first meal taught me a lot about *"kapwa-tao,"* the next four days taught me more. Whenever I wanted to wash my hands, there were people offering to pump water for me. When I asked around for sunblock, several would be thrown at me. All of the people were working effectively. Everyone was helping everyone else. Each was doing his best for a common goal.

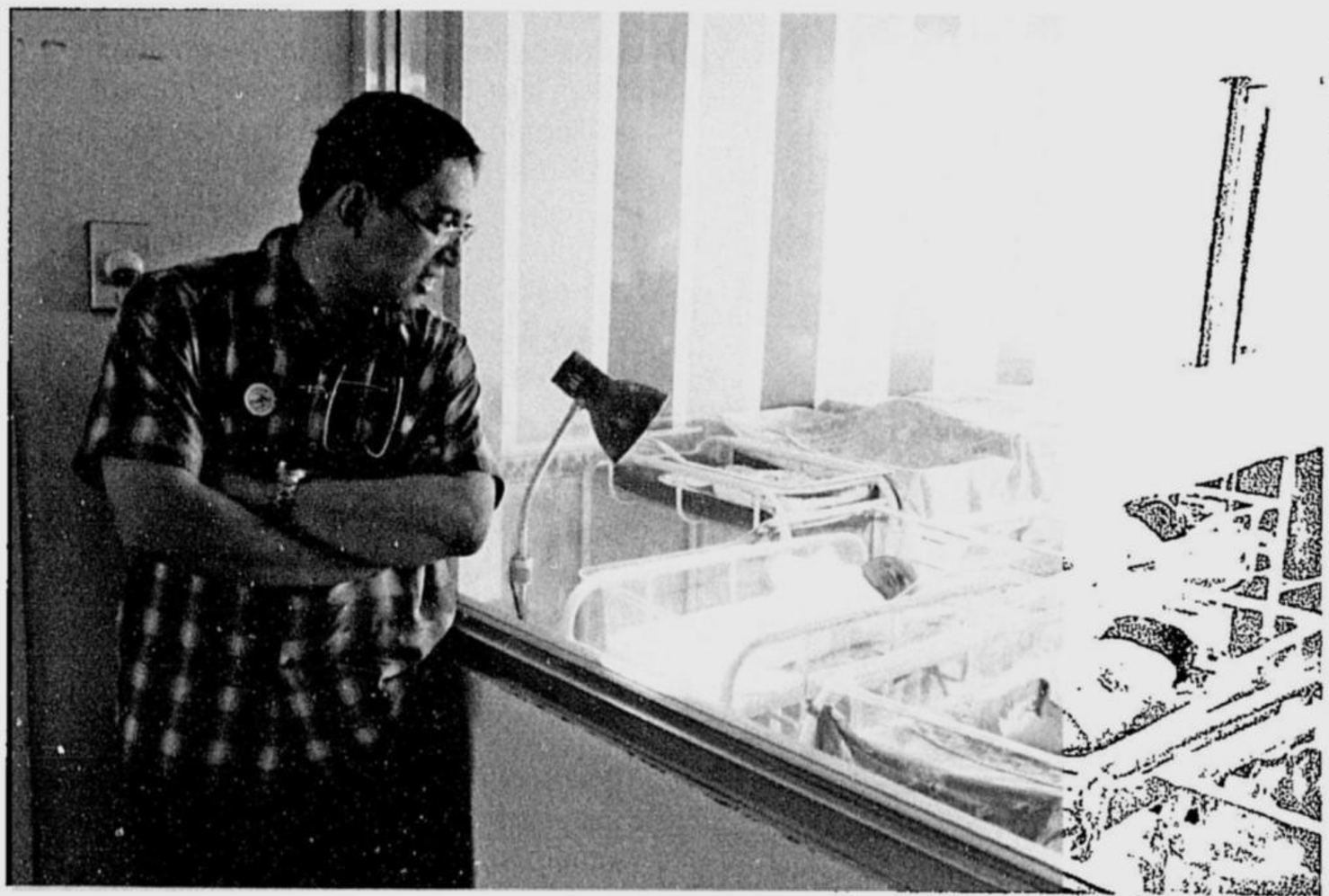
Apart from this, I am astonished at the volunteerism and dedication of the people I have worked with. My initial exposure to the mostly privileged people in Ateneo had

(continued on page 15)

By Noel P. Pingoy, MD

Finding solace beyond birds, babies and bonsai trees

Words on paper have always held me captive, but I just realized that for the past three years, my output has been limited to my patients' charts, and prescriptions and articles for medical journals– –all purely academic exercises



Dr. Willy Garcia

Pingoy: Bridging the gap between medicine and living

THESE past three years since I came home to start a modest medical practice south of the country, I've discovered in otherwise nondescript things a sort of deliverance, a sanctuary that I never thought existed.

During residency training, we were taught that there is a natural explanation for every occurrence, thus we had to rationalize everything. As doctors, it was instilled in our minds that every phenomenon has a cause, an effect, a cure if need be, and that if we didn't believe that, then we should consider shifting to another specialty.

Fortunately, after the academics, when I got into fellowship training, I found out that such absolutes were the least of our concerns, and that trainees are regarded with collegial guidance in the workplace, so that daily encounters are often sincere, friendly and pleasant.

After fellowship, with much relief and trepidation, I came back to start a practice in General Santos City, Mindanao. To my utter delight, I discovered the freedom that comes with private practice. The schedule was less regimented; the free hours seemed initially boundless, and I was particularly thrilled to finally get a chance to catch up on my reading. The to-do list was endless: Learn a fresh hobby. Engage in a new sport. Simplify one's life. Find a wife. (Perhaps in increasing order of urgency.)

Then came a newfound appreciation of the simple, almost inconsequential, things outside the practice of the profession. There are days when my thoughts wander off to the bonsai trees lining the pavement. Gifts from one of the kindest and warmest human beings who has since moved on to the Great Beyond, these sturdy molave trees (*Vites oarviflora Juss*) never fail to invigorate a weary spirit. During Dr. Velasquez's last few months, when he could no longer make it to the office, I would visit him at home, oftentimes just to try encouraging him to go on. He would talk about his life, his family and his plans for the future, and at the end of a session, he would ask his helper to load a few of his treasured bonsai trees into my car. He would sometimes teach me how to care for the miniature trees. I am often amazed at how no two plants look the same. Each tree bears its owner's signature—a slight twist of the wire here, a little break in the twig there, a delicate cut from the primary layer. I often wonder what thoughts raced through the doctor's mind while he tinkered with his bonsai trees: intimations of mortality perhaps, maybe entreaties for a second chance at life, or simple appeals for the relief of pain.

I have even learned to appreciate the design of the hospitals here. At both General Santos Doctors and St. Elizabeth, the ICUs are at the far end of the wing. Before doing the rounds of the most "toxic" patients, doctors have to pass by the nursery, the merriest section of the building. Babies of all shapes and sizes are on display: some are bald while others have a generous crown of curly hair; some sleep through the day, while other cry their lungs out; one may appear grumpy, while next to him is Miss Congeniality. And the best thing about this heartwarming sight is that it is absolutely free, no hidden charges, no obligations.

Three weeks ago, I noticed an unusual mass of dried grass in the middle portion of a tree just outside my bedroom window. It was a nest with a tiny grayish egg lying securely at the center. It became a daily ritual for me, before I set out to do my rounds, to check if the egg had been hatched. Each morning I would pass by the nest while the mother bird sat—not moving, barely breathing, seemingly content. That's how it was every day, bird to man, eye to eye. I learned that it was a

(continued on page 15)

A Ticket to Good Taste (from page 5)

Segismundo: Don't lose the soul of your food

glass walls because the cooking, as well as the restaurant's interiors and service, is nothing short of first rate.

The day I interviewed Chef Myrna, whom I fondly call The Legend (to her exasperation, as she humbly insists "I'm just a Tale!"), she simultaneously had another interview with Malaysian-based American writer Robyn Eckhardt (eatingasia.typepad.com), who was doing research on lechon (Filipino-style roasted pig). I was therefore fortunate enough to be served a dish from a special menu that is signature Myrna Segismundo: Roulade of Boneless Native Lechon in Duck Liver-Red Wine Sauce. This dish is reflective of what Segismundo stands for: something rooted deep in Filipino culture using techniques that are used in four-star kitchens around the world for a dining experience that is high brow yet close to home. In fact the entire menu is consistent with the theme. The starter, Lapu Lapu and Sea Scallops in Green Mango and Tomato Sinigang Sauces is deceiving: you can taste the hints of sinigang but cannot see it on the elegant plate of matchbox-sized fish and scallops. The chicken molo soup that followed the scallops was served in a coconut shell, with the coconut meat still intact and ready for scraping. As the denouement dish, Kesong Puti was baked and served with pili nuts. For dessert, a classic turon with banana and langka (jackfruit) was served with cheese ice cream. And did I mention that the lechon tasted just as it should, with the salty, crunchy skin enveloping the juicy pork meat underneath, except the roulade camouflouged the classic favorite's otherwise barbaric nature?

This menu changes every three months. Having the same clients day in and day out forces the corporate dining chef to be creative, to invent and to reinvent. "What better way to flex your muscles?" she asks gamely. She generously shares the secrets of her success: First, an intelligent approach to cooking. Segismundo emphasizes that she "did her homework." In fact, she has taken Master Classes in Cookery and Food Styling in New York. Today, she improves her techniques by mastering ingredients, underlining the importance of knowing "that this olive oil tastes better than the other," reading specialized books such as her current reading on trends in making sauces. The second and more important secret is passion. "There are some chefs who are schooled but are all structure, all formula, but no soul. You must remember that a lot is based simply on your recollections of what tastes good. Dining is not about flexing your muscles alone because then you lose the soul of the food." Her advice to today's aspiring chefs and restaurateurs: "Begin with the classics, then bring out a little of yourself and put your signature on it. And apply it to your culture because you have a social responsibility to uplift your own, whether it be regional or otherwise."

This recognition of a social responsibility, aside from her obvious excellent taste and techniques, is what makes Segismundo one of the most valuable leaders in today's Philippine culinary industry. With food writer Michaela Fenix, they began the Doreen Gamboa Fernandez Food Writing Award, encouraging a love for slow food and regional cooking not only among adults but also among the younger generations; an appreciation for Philippine cuisine that is, by means of the contest, annually documented in beautiful prose. Doreen Fernandez would be proud and the succeeding generations grateful. (I know I am—it's this competition that got me into food writing!)

Unfortunately, ABS-CBN has Chef Myrna all to itself as 9501 is not open to the public. Fortunately, Chef Myrna has a heart of gold that goes beyond a recognition of her cultural responsibility. For the I Can Serve Foundation (www.icanserve.net), a breast cancer advocacy group, she has agreed to serve some of her signature dishes at a Food Festival that will be open to the public on August 11-12 at the Rockwell Tent (the complete list of participants is in (margauxlicious.blogspot.com). Don't miss this weekend opportunity to taste some of Myrna Segismundo's creations. Proceeds of the event will go to the foundation, so you'll be hitting two good deeds (yes, treating yourself to Segismundo's cooking is a good deed) with one ticket—and all in good taste. •

Myrna Segismundo is also part of "Chef TV," a food show on ABS-CBN that is organizing Food Showdown 2007, a cooking competition inspired by Chefs on Parade and Iron Chef that will be open to student and professional chefs alike. Contact Ms. Mira Angeles at 411-1434 or 415-2272 loc 2331 or email cheftv@abs-cbn.com for details.

The Breast of Both Worlds (from page 6)

Kelly Jugo and child

disposal of the cans, bottles, accessories, cartons, etc.

Breastfeeding in a society where bottle-feeding is the norm clearly requires a significant commitment, especially when relatives and friends do not support breastfeeding. However, women making the decision about infant feeding should know that breastfeeding is clearly more than a lifestyle choice: It is a significant health decision with life-long consequences. And it's also fun! •

WHO/Unicef join the Department of Health (DOH) in celebrating the World Breastfeeding Week on August 1-7, 2007, World Breastfeeding Day on August 1 with the theme focused on Breastfeeding: First Hour After Birth Save One million babies! DOH Secretary Dr. Francisco Duque conferred on Ms. Tessa Prieto-Valdes the title "Idol ng Breastfeeding" recently for her dedication in breastfeeding daughter Athena exclusively for six months to one year despite her hectic schedule.

glass walls because the cooking, as well as the restaurant's interiors and service, i nothing short of first rate.

The day I interviewed Chef Myrna, whom fondly call The Legend (to her exasperation as she humbly insists 'n just a Tale!' she simultaneously had another interview with Malaysian-based American writer Robyn Eckhardt (eatingasia.typepad com) who was doing research on lechon (Filipino-style roasted pig). I was therefore fortunate enough to be served a dish from a special menu that is signature Myrna Segismundo: Roulade of Boneless Native Lechon in Duck Liver-Red Wine Sauce. This dish is reflective of what Segismundo stands for something rooted deep in Filipino culture using techniques that are used in four-star kitchens around the world for a dining experience that is high brow yet close to home. In fact the entire menu is consistent with the theme. The starter Lapu Lapu and Sea Scallops in Green Mango and Tomato Sinigang Sauces is deceiving: you can taste the hints of sinigang but cannot see it on the elegant plate of matchbox-sized fish and scallops. The chicken molo soup that followed the scallops was served in a coconut shell, with the coconut meat still intact and ready for scraping. As the denouement dish, Kesong Puti was baked and served with pili nuts. For dessert, a classic turon with banana and langka (jackfruit) was served with cheese ice cream. And did I mention that the lechon tasted just as it should, with the salty, crunchy skin enveloping the juicy pork meat underneath, except the roulade camouflouged the classic favorite's otherwise barbaric nature?

This menu changes every three months. Having the same clients day in and day out forces the corporate dining chef to be creative, to invent and to reinvent. "What better way to flex your muscles?" she asks gamely. She generously shares the secrets of her success: First, an intelligent approach to cooking. Segismundo emphasizes that she "did her homework. In fact, she has taken Master Classes in Cookery and Food Styling in New York. Today, she improves her techniques by mastering ingredients, underlining the importance of knowing "that this olive oil tastes better than the other" reading specialized books such as her current reading on trends in making sauces. The second and more important secret is passion. "There are some chefs who are schooled but are all structure, all formula, but no soul. You must remember that a lot is based simply on your recollections of what tastes good. Dining is not about flexing your muscles alone because then you lose the soul of the food." Her advice to today's aspiring chefs and restaurateurs: "Begin with the classics, then bring out a little of yourself and put your signature on it. And apply it to your culture because you have a social responsibility to uplift your own, whether it be regional or otherwise.

This recognition of a social responsibility, aside from her obvious excellent taste and techniques, is what makes Segismundo one of the most valuable leaders in today's Philippine culinary industry. With food writer Michaela Fenix, they began the Doreen Gamboa Fernandez Food Writing Award, encouraging a love for slow food and regional cooking not only among adults but also among the younger generations, an appreciation for Philippine cuisine that is, by means of the contest, annually documented in beautiful prose. Doreen Fernandez would be proud and the succeeding generations grateful (I know I am it's this competition that got me into food writing!)

Unfortunately, ABS-CBN has Chef Myrna all to itself as 9501 is not open to the public. Fortunately, Chef Myrna has a heart of gold that goes beyond a recognition of her cultural responsibility. For the I Can Serve Foundation (www.icanserve.net), a breast cancer advocacy group, she has agreed to serve some of her signature dishes at a Food Festival that will be open to the public on August 11-12 at the Rockwell Tent (the complete list of participants is in (margauxlicious blogspot.com). Don't miss this weekend opportunity to taste some of Myrna Segismundo's creations. Proceeds of the event will go to the foundation, so you'll be hitting two good deeds (yes, treating yourself to Segismundo's cooking is a good deed) with one ticket --and all in good taste. •

Myrna Segismundo is also part of "Chef TV," a food show on ABS-CBN that is organizing Food Showdown 2007, a cooking competition inspired by Chefs on Parade and Iron Chef that will be open to student and professional chefs alike. Contact Ms. Mira Angeles at 411-1434 or 415-2272 loc 2331 or email cheftv@abs-cbn.com for details

The Breast of Both Worlds (from page 6)

Kelly Jugo and child

disposal of the cans, bottles, accessories, cartons, etc.

Breastfeeding in a society where bottle-feeding is the norm clearly requires a significant commitment, especially when relatives and friends do not support breastfeeding. However, women making the decision about infant feeding should know that breastfeeding is clearly more than a lifestyle choice: It is a significant health decision with life-long consequences. And it's also fun! •

WHO/Unicef join the Department of Health (DOH) in celebrating the World Breastfeeding Week on August 1-7, 2007, World Breastfeeding Day on August 1 with the theme focused on Breastfeeding: First Hour After Birth Save One million babies! DOH Secretary Dr. Francisco Duque conferred on Ms. Tessa Prieto-Valdes the title "Idol ng Breastfeeding" recently for her dedication in breastfeeding daughter Athena exclusively for six months to one year despite her hectic schedule.

Once In A Lifetime (from page 12)

Zhao: "Filipinos can be their own heroes."

given me various misconceptions about them. After the Bicol Challenge, I realized that people living comfortable lives can actually go out of their comfort zones and be of help to other people in need. This realization has taught me so much, especially since I always thought that the rich and the poor are always in conflict with each other. Coming from a country that has infused that notion in me, I realized that it is not necessarily always true. It was through this experience that I got to appreciate the beauty of genuine service for others—people from all walks of life coming together, united for a good cause.

I really felt the warmth and dedication of the people around me during those days. And I began to wonder even then: is it the Ateneo way? The GK way? Or actually the Filipino way?

I am truly privileged to have encountered this beautiful side of the Filipino people, which unfortunately, some Filipinos have seem to have forgotten. The impressions I had or that had been given me—of inefficiency, corruption, indolence—about the people, have been mitigated with their warmth, kindness, generosity and service for others. I am just a foreigner invited to be part of this endeavor, but if I had been touched and inspired by the humanity of these people, how much more the Filipinos themselves? I am certain that all Filipinos can be more positive and be their own heroes for their own country.

This is how I want to remember the Philippines as I go back to my country. I don't know how many times I have been asked why I chose Philippine Studies as my major. I have been asked why I want to study the Filipino language, since most people here speak English anyway. Even Filipinos themselves have asked why I am studying the Philippines when there is nothing interesting to learn about the country.

Despite my initial misgivings in college and such discouraging remarks from people, I realize that after having come, I am grateful that I made the choice to study the country. Gawad Kalinga is just one of the many remarkable lessons I learned and one of the most significant life-changing experiences I had in this country. I am proud to be surrounded by these people whom I consider my real-life heroes. Most importantly, I really appreciate these Filipinos, who have taught me so much and have inspired me to bring out the hero in me. •

Finding solace... (from page 13)

yellow vented bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*), one of the common birds in urban areas. I was fascinated by the transformation, watching a delicate head peer out of the half-broken shell. Then it became a fragile hairless creature that resembled a 21-day old balut, which slowly turned into a helpless hatchling opening its beak at the slightest movement and sound around its nest. Soon after, it became a trembling fledging before finally emerging as a proud bulbul with its signature yellow breast. The following day, my feathered friend was gone.

I always have trouble with this last leg of the process, when only a feather or two is left in the nest. Why can't the birds just come back to their nest when night falls? Why can't people remain babies, cuddly and cute, adorable and trusting? Why can't things remain as they are, or the way we want or plan them?

As an oncologist who has just started practice, I sometimes forget that things may and do sometimes turn out differently, despite one's most fervent labors and best intentions. I sometimes wish oncologists could have a moratorium on signing death certificates. But my father frequently tells me that dying is an indispensable part of living. That's how the world renews itself—by getting rid of the old and the diseased to make room for the new and the healthy. Even the wild flowers have destinies of their own and no one can prevent them from withering in summer or blooming after the rains.

Thus one has to be content with the parable of the bonsai trees. Tumors can be like them; a doctor can well contain their growth and prevent their spread—roots, branches, leaves and all—without necessarily killing the tree itself. And when one has done that, then he can survey his handiwork from a comfortable distance and feel proud of it.

Mercifully, my practice is oftentimes punctuated by what others call "sought after distractions," those ephemeral, almost irrelevant activities that offer nothing more than a transitory lull from the customary course of despair. In this country when one person out of 10,000 has cancer, where one out of two newly-diagnosed cancer cases dies within the next 12 months, and almost half of these deaths occur without medical attendance, you can't help but wish to be consciously distracted from these facts. And that's why I've tried various hobbies to take my mind off the niggling vexations of daily habits, from practice shooting (a gratuitous misuse of blanks), and finally to writing.

Words on paper have always held me captive for as long as I can remember, especially those that gush with lyricism, poignancy and honesty. There are times when I find myself daydreaming about becoming a writer. Too quixotic perhaps, but when an opportunity to write presents itself, my knee-jerk thoughts are "What do I know about writing beyond the comforts of medicine? Why venture into the world of literature when textbooks offer more precise and scientific explanations for every sign and symptom a patient complains about? I just realized that for the past three years my output has been utterly restricted to my patients' charts, drug prescriptions and a few articles for the medical journals, all purely academic exercises.

So while my patients return to their quotidian activities, I try to revisit my struggles with the written word—sometimes that can bridge the gap between the assiduousness of medicine and the grace of simply being alive. The dynamics among medicine, ethics and faith may be a formidable topic to tackle, but sometimes I find in this daunting task a sanctuary that is all mine for the taking. •

Don't let your allergy ruin the moment.

MAMPRYNME

Acts as fast as **15** minutes.
Lasts for as long as **24** hours.
With virtually **0** drowsiness.

To help you take control over common allergens
such as dust, smoke, pollen and pets.

LORATADINE
CLARITIN™
FORMULA 15-24-0
Power Over Allergy

Dosage and Administration: Adults and children 12 years of age and over; one tablet once daily. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

Schering-Plough

Available in mercury drug and all leading drugstores nationwide.